

147 killed in Iranian floods

NICOSIA (AP) — A rain-swollen river burst over its banks in northeastern Iran, killing at least 147 people, the official Islamic Republic News Agency (IRNA) reported Saturday. The agency, monitored in Nicosia, said the Boojhan River overflowed Friday night following torrential rain in the region and a wave of water covered the nearby village of Boojhan. It quoted witnesses as saying the flood was so strong it overturned a truck with its load and washed away numerous parked cars. At least 138 people were killed in and around Boojhan and rescuers were trying to locate the bodies of others who may have been buried in silt carried by the torrent of water. In addition, nine people were killed Friday night and another 18 injured in a flood in the village of Zoshk in the same region, the agency reported. Eighteen cars were swept away, it said. Earlier, the Iranian agency had said 36 people were injured. There was no immediate explanation for the discrepancy. An official of the Red Crescent was quoted as saying rescuers rushed to the region. The two villages are near the city of Mashhad, which is 800 kilometres east of Tehran. The region is bordered by the Soviet Union to the north and Afghanistan to the east.

Jordan Times

An independent Arab political daily published by the Jordan Press Foundation
جوردان تايمز يومية سياسية تصدر عن المؤسسة الصحفية الأردنية «الراي»

2 charged in Paris 1986 bombings

PARIS (AP) — The judge investigating a wave of bombings in Paris last fall on Saturday charged two Lebanese men in connection with the attacks. Mohammed Moussaoui, 31, appeared before investigating magistrate Gilles Bouloque and was charged with "criminal association with terrorists." Earlier in the day, Abbas Khawaja had been charged with the same offence. Both men were jailed at an undisclosed location, in keeping with judicial practice in terrorism cases. The two were among five Lebanese arrested on Tuesday by the French counterintelligence service. Three others were freed after four days of questioning. A court source, who requested anonymity, said Moussaoui had worked at the Iranian embassy for Wahid Ghorji, the translator who is at the centre of a dispute between France and Iran that resulted in the severing of diplomatic relations eight days ago. The source did not specify what job Moussaoui had performed for the embassy. Mr. Ghorji, who does not have diplomatic immunity, on Saturday remained in the embassy which continued to be encircled by police. Since June 30, Mr. Ghorji has refused to come out and turn himself over to Judge Bouloque for questioning.

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Sudan declares state of emergency

KHARTOUM (R) — The Sudanese government has declared a state of emergency throughout the country for one year starting Saturday. A statement issued after a cabinet meeting said the move was to secure the country against what it said were enemies of democracy and from instability in some parts of the country.

3 more killed in Karachi riots

KARACHI (R) — Three people have been killed and more than 40 injured in fresh rioting in Pakistan's troubled city of Karachi, doctors said Saturday. They said two people died Saturday and one Friday night in clashes between police and protesters in the traditionally volatile suburb of Liaquatabad, north of the city centre. Some of the injured were policemen. Demonstrators blamed the three deaths on police firing. A senior police official told Reuters the rioters had hurled petrol bombs and fired shots at policemen. The riots flared as crowds protested against what they called police excesses against demonstrators in parts of eastern Karachi where a curfew was imposed on Wednesday after 14 people had been killed in rioting.

Soviet team returns to Israel from Cyprus

TEL AVIV (AP) — Members of a Soviet consular delegation, who have resumed their work in Israel after a three-day stay in Cyprus, on Saturday denied reports that they met with their superiors in Cyprus. "My trip to Cyprus was purely private, and I can add nothing to that because there is nothing to add," Yevgeny Antipov, head of the eight-member delegation, told AP. The delegation arrived in Israel on July 12 to survey Russian Orthodox Church property and renew the passports of Soviet citizens.

Tanjung to open office in Tel Aviv

BELGRADE (R) — Yugoslavia, which severed diplomatic ties with Israel 20 years ago, plans to open an office for its national news agency Tanjug in Tel Aviv, Tanjug officials said here Saturday. They said Tanjug's Cairo correspondent Miroslav Viskovic was in Tel Aviv looking for office space and the agency hoped to start operating there within weeks. The move came amid intensified Yugoslav diplomatic activity in the Middle East and rumours of an imminent renewal of diplomatic ties with Israel, denied by officials so far.

Arafat's visit to India is delayed

NEW DELHI (AP) — Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) Chairman Yasser Arafat has postponed his planned three-day state visit to India, the United News of India (UNI) reported Saturday. The news agency said Mr. Arafat, who had been scheduled to arrive in New Delhi on Monday, would instead attend the summit of the Organisation of African Unity in Ethiopia. UNI quoted a senior government official as saying Mr. Arafat's visit would be rescheduled to Aug. 3-5.

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Kuwait and U.S. seek ways to protect tankers from mines

KUWAIT (Agencies) — Kuwait and the United States are examining ways to protect Kuwaiti tankers from Iranian-planted mines in the Gulf after the supertanker Bridgeton was hit on Friday on its maiden voyage under the U.S. flag.

Diplomatic and shipping sources said the blast, which ripped a hole in the bottom of the 401,382-tonne crude oil carrier, was an embarrassment for the United States but not a major cause for concern in either Washington or Kuwait.

American warships were regrouping on Saturday off Bahrain as Washington reassessed the effectiveness of its convoy strategy in the Gulf.

The three warships picked their way south from Kuwait through a suspected minefield while divers began inspecting the underwater damage to the hull of the Bridgeton.

The mine, which U.S. officials said could only have been laid by Iran, dented U.S. policy of running convoys of Kuwaiti tankers newly re-registered under the American flag to protect them from Iranian attack.

In Washington, the explosion raised new questions about the effectiveness of the convoy policy and how long the \$1.7-million-a-day operation could continue.

It also heightened fears among critics the operation could lead to a direct U.S.-Iranian clash.

One source said Kuwait's main worry was that the incident would fuel U.S. opposition to the protection scheme, which some congressmen fear could lead to a direct military confrontation with Iran.

Divers on Saturday inspected damage to the Bridgeton, anchored four and a half miles off Kuwait's main oil port of Mina Al Ahmadi, and sources quoted by Reuters said they found a small hole in the bottom and damage to four tanks.

The ship was nevertheless expected to be able to load part of its crude oil cargo after authorisation by the U.S. coast guard, which is being advised of the damage.

The Bridgeton hit an underwater mine teathered to the seabed near an Iranian island which had been used in the past for attacks on Kuwait-linked shipping.

Merchant ships reported several rusty mines floating on the surface 60 miles to the south off the Saudi Arabian oil terminal of Ras Tanurah. They said they might have drifted south from the war zone.

On board the Kidd, one of the U.S. escort ships sailing to join their headquarters ship Lasalle, Commander Daniel Murphy said the convoy's capability to spot a moored mine was poor.

Asked why the convoy did not include mine-seeking helicopters or minesweepers, he replied: "I don't know."

Shipping sources said it would probably be able to begin loading crude oil on Sunday and leave with the gas tanker Gas Prince on Wednesday or Thursday.

Pentagon sources in Washington, speaking to AP on condition of anonymity, said officials were considering sending minesweepers to help future convoys of the 11 Kuwaiti tankers set to be registered in the United States by the end of August.

None of the 17 U.S. navy ships in or near the Gulf are minesweepers, although several ships

(Continued on page 4)

Iraq reports intense air raids on Iranians

BAGHDAD (Agencies) — Iraq said its warplanes and helicopter gunships flew 216 sorties and combat missions on Saturday, destroying 230 infantry positions and artillery emplacements.

The high command communique made no mention of any serious fighting to prompt such intensive raids, but the Iranian news agency IRNA reported an Iraqi ground attack in the Sumar region about 130 kilometres northeast of Baghdad.

The raids were the first major activity reported by the air force since Baghdad said on Wednesday that it would implement a U.N. Security Council resolution ordering a ceasefire in the Iran-Iraq war if Tehran did likewise.

The communique said all the aircraft returned safely to base.

Earlier, Iran said over 100 Iraqi troops were killed and scores injured and an Iraqi Mirage jet and a helicopter shot down in fighting early on the central Gulf war front.

IRNA said attacking Iraqi troops suffered heavy losses in an overnight assault on two heights in the Sumar region.

There have been heavy but sporadic fighting reported from the area for the past two weeks.

IRNA said anti-aircraft fire shot down the French-made Mirage jet and a helicopter over the central front shortly after dawn Friday.

An Iraqi military spokesman denied that any Iraqi aircraft had been shot down Saturday, saying all planes returned safely to base after their missions.

The last major fighting reported was last weekend, when Iran claimed it killed or wounded 2,700 Iraqi troops in fighting in the Iranian-held Fao Peninsula in the south and in the northern Kurdistan region.

Aziz and Shultz meet tomorrow; no Velayati-U.N. chief talks in Geneva

WASHINGTON (Agencies) — Iraqi Foreign Minister Tariq Aziz will meet on Monday with Secretary of State George Shultz on efforts to impose a ceasefire in the Gulf war between Iran and Iraq.

Mr. Aziz has been in New York for meetings with U.N. Secretary-General Javier Perez de Cuellar, who has primary responsibility to carry out a ceasefire resolution passed by the U.N. Security Council last Monday.

Iraq has agreed to halt the nearly seven-year-old war, but Iran is resisting the ceasefire order.

State Department spokesman Pete Martinez said Saturday that Mr. Aziz's meeting with Mr. Shultz in Washington was in the context of the Iraqi consultations with the U.N. secretary-general.

In Geneva, a U.N. spokesman said Mr. Perez de Cuellar and Iran's Foreign Minister Ali Akbar Velayati were not to meet Saturday as previously announced.

Spokesman Joe Sills said Mr. Velayati, who arrived in Geneva on Friday after a 24-hour visit to Bonn, had requested a new date for the proposed meeting.

Mr. Perez de Cuellar was in Paris Friday night on his way to Addis Ababa, where he was to attend an Organisation of African Unity (OAU) meeting, intending to return to New York on July 30.

Sills said there was no immediate substitute plan for the secretary-general's meeting with Mr. Velayati, which was intended to discuss the U.N. Security Council Resolution.

A spokesman for Iran's U.N. mission, Amir Zamani, told Reuters he was surprised that Mr. Perez de Cuellar's office had announced there would be a meeting with Mr. Velayati as, he said, the foreign minister had not confirmed the plan.

"We indicated that we were working to see whether the foreign minister could see the secretary-general," Zamani said.

He noted that Mr. Velayati had stated while visiting Bonn that there was a standing invitation for Mr. Perez de Cuellar to visit Tehran, where he could see the foreign minister and other officials.

Mr. Aziz said Thursday after an hour-long meeting with the secretary-general that Mr. Perez de Cuellar was welcome to visit Baghdad.

There has been much speculation that the U.N. chief would visit Iran and Iraq following the Security Council's ceasefire demand, but no plans for this have been disclosed.

Following his meeting with Mr. Aziz, talks with Mr. Velayati might have obviated the need for a Gulf visit, observers said.

In light of the latest Iranian move, it was not known where or when Mr. Perez de Cuellar would discuss the Security Council's resolution with high-level Iranian officials.

Cabinet decides to convert PTC to share-holding firm

AMMAN (Petra) — The Council of Ministers on Saturday decided to convert the Public Transport Corporation (PTC) to a public shareholding company.

The Cabinet, during a regular session chaired by Prime Minister Zaid Rifai, also decided to appoint Dr. Mohammad Bani-Hani as acting director-general of the Jordan Valley Authority (JVA). Mr. Bani-Hani served as the JVA's secretary-general prior to the new appointment. The top job at the JVA fell vacant when Munther Haddadin resigned earlier this month.

In another decision taken on Saturday, the Cabinet approved the formation of Jordan's delegation to the 42nd session of the U.N. General Assembly which opens in New York on Sept. 15. The delegation will be headed by Foreign Minister Taher Al Masri

and will include Jordan's permanent delegate to the U.N., Dr. Abdullah Salah, Ambassador Farouq Qasrawi, Ambassador Khalil Othman and Foreign Ministry Secretary Awni Khawaneh.

The Cabinet also approved recommendations adopted at the founding meeting of the Inter-Islamic Network on Water Resources Management and Development in Amman earlier this month. The July 7-9 meeting was attended by delegates from Egypt, Morocco, Pakistan, Niger, Turkey, Tunisia, Mali and the Islamic Academy for Science and Technology. One of the conference recommendations was that the network be based in Amman and chaired by Jordan with a \$600,000 budget for its establishment.

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Casey reportedly suppressed report on 'Iranian terrorism'

WASHINGTON (AP) — Former CIA Director William Casey suppressed a report on Iran's use of terrorism because it would have been at odds with the administration's covert policy of selling arms to Iran, congressional investigators say.

The incident a year ago, made public during Friday's Iran-contra hearings, further reinforced the view that President Ronald Reagan was misled by some of his top advisers into selling arms to a "terrorist nation," in hopes of ransoming American hostages but in direct contravention of his own stated policy.

The House and Senate Iran-contra investigating committees learned about the incident by reading the notes of Secretary of State George Shultz, who said "the true situation was not being allowed to appear" because it would have contradicted administration assurances that Iran's terrorist activities had ceased.

"Here was the report on the desk of the director of the CIA which pointed out very clearly that Iran was using terrorism as a weapon and yet, that information was suppressed and not made available to you or anybody else in government, as far as I know," said Congressman Dante Fascell.

Mr. Shultz acknowledged that he had been given information "that there was an intelligence report having to do with Iranian terrorism which was being sat on."

After pressure from the State Department, the CIA apparently finally produced a watered-down rewrite of the report, said Mr. Fascell, an opposition Democrat.

He added the House Foreign Affairs Committee he chairs has never seen either the original terrorism report or the rewritten version.

Some panel members said it was an illustration of distortion of information given the president to fit the policy goals of a few advisers, a purpose Mr. Shultz had charged during his two days of testimony was being pursued by Mr. Casey and by former National Security Adviser John Poindexter.

"It looks like there was some intelligence that was cooked," said Sen. Warren Rudman, a Republican. "The story that's

coming out here is, how in the world can you tell what kind of briefings the president ever got?"

Asked whether the new information painted an even darker picture of Mr. Casey, who died in May of a brain tumour, Sen. Inouye said: "It would appear so."

But Congressman Ed Jenkins, a Democrat, also pointed out that by portraying Reagan as having been misled into selling arms to Iran, Mr. Shultz had "placed that decision by the president in the best possible light, because you have indicated that he was misinformed."

Republicans on the investigating panels were harshest on Mr. Shultz, saying he had not fought hard enough against the policy that brought disaster to the GOP administration.

"In my opinion, you purposely cut yourself out of the facts," said Congressman Michael Dewine, a Republican. "You walked off the field when the score was against you."

Responded Mr. Shultz: "Well, I'll just say that's one man's opinion and I don't share it."

Mr. Shultz maintained that to have resigned over the policy, as some conservative Republicans suggested, would have done even more damage to a crippled administration. "I'm here to help the

president, not make his life more difficult," he said.

And he rejected the idea, suggested by Sen. George Mitchell, a Democrat, that Mr. Reagan himself was among those who were deceiving the secretary of state. Sen. Mitchell noted that the president had not told Mr. Shultz about three intelligence findings authorising the arms sales to Iran.

"I don't believe that," Mr. Shultz said. "I have a relationship with the president such that I don't think he is out to deceive me."

Meanwhile White House spokesman Martin Fitzwater said Friday President Reagan refused Mr. Shultz's offers to resign because he wanted Mr. Shultz "on his team."

Mr. Fitzwater, speaking with reporters, refused to be drawn into a detailed discussion of Mr. Shultz's testimony to the congressional Iran-contra committees.

The spokesman said he didn't know anything about Mr. Shultz's complaint that a White House official once denied him the use of a government airplane.

In response to Mr. Shultz's complaints about lack of access to Mr. Reagan, Mr. Fitzwater said, "I'm not familiar with his relations with the White House staff" as the arms-to-Iran affair was becoming public.

'Mines are Iran's sure way to harass U.S.'

MANAMA, Bahrain (Agencies) — The mine that went off underneath the jumbo-size, U.S.-flagged Kuwaiti supertanker Bridgeton was probably laid only two hours ahead of the blast, a newspaper reported Saturday.

Citing unidentified shipping sources, the English-language Gulf Daily News said "whoever laid the mines in the seahole off the Iranian island (of Farsiyah) had been able to plot the convoy course because it was sailing in a straight line."

"I am sure the convoy's course was plotted and mines (were) laid in its path only a couple of hours before one struck the Bridgeton," a Gulf-based maritime shipping source told the paper.

The independent daily did not incriminate any specific power for the alleged mine laying, but it appeared to implicate Iran.

The 401,382-ton Bridgeton was jolted shortly after sunrise Friday, when it was cruising 1,800 yards away from the USS Fox in a convoy that also included another U.S.-flagged Kuwaiti oil products carrier, the 46,723-ton Gas Prince.

The escorts were cruiser Fox, frigate Crommelin, and destroyer Kidd.

The supertanker hit the mine at a position about 20 kilometres from Farsiyah, which Iran's Revolutionary Guards have used as a staging area for their speedboat attacks on Gulf shipping.

After the Bridgeton hit the mine, her American skipper Frank Seitz volunteered to act as

the lead ship for the convoy because the supertanker's size makes it unlikely that another mine blast would totally cripple her in the water, according to reports reaching here from reporters aboard the USS Kidd.

Reports from Tehran said the Iranians were jubilant on the convoy's mishap.

Arabi diplomatic sources in Bahrain, recalling that the Kuwaiti-leased Soviet tanker Marshal Chukov hit a mine in the same region last May, said it was pointless to play down or ridicule the role of U.S. warships in the Gulf waters.

"The mines are Iran's sure way to harass the American-supported Kuwaiti tankers in the Gulf," said an Arab diplomat, who requested anonymity.

He said: "Although we know that only Iran has a vested interest in harassing the Americans, it is extremely difficult to prove that the mines were laid by Iranians."

The bottomline here is this: The Iranians appear to have managed to neutralise the course of the convoy without taking any direct blame for this."

The convoy was too heavily protected to be attacked by conventional weapons at Iran's disposal, the diplomat said, and "Iran has the ability to turn the Gulf waters into a minefield."

The mine that hit the Bridgeton apparently was moored to the seabed and positioned about 20 feet below the surface, according to Pentagon officials.

Maritime salvage executives said the eight mines that were cleared off the channel leading to Kuwait's Al Ahmadi oil terminal last week were of an old Soviet type which have to be touched to go off.

They noted that, like the mine that jolted the Bridgeton, the eight were moored to the bottom of the sea and float below the surface.

Other mines, the floating types, had been detected and defused in recent months near Bahrain and Kuwait.

The floating types can be destroyed by shooting at them. The executives said the Americans were expected to pay more attention to the mines on the return trip, from Kuwait back to the Arabian Sea.

These executives spoke of yet other types, mainly the acoustically detonatable mines that are buried in the seabed mud and released by the sound of ship propellers passing overhead. The mine would then rise and hit either the ship or anything that follows it.

They said there was no explanation why U.S. warships did not take adequate anti-mine precautions, noting that after the blast the Bridgeton was turned into a virtual minesweeper to shield the rest of the convoy.

Some of these mines are made out of plastic, which would make them difficult to detect with minesweepers, the executives reported. Iran, they claimed, have been able to buy these mines

from black market agents in Western Europe.

Aside from the Bridgeton, the vessels that were damaged by mines in the region were the Chukov, the Liberian-flagged tanker Primrose, the Greek supertanker Ethnik, and the Liberian-registered Stena Explorer.

These were hit by what is known as "contact mines" detonated when the vessels struck them, the executives added.

Saudi Arabia has four mine-sweeping ships operating in the area south of Kuwait, to conduct sweeps before each U.S.-escorted tanker convoy enters the hazardous region.

Shipping sources along the Gulf claimed that one two speedboats, believed to be Iranian, were sighted a few hours in the area before the convoy cruised.

Meanwhile a naval expert said Friday in an age of billion-dollar military technology, World War I tactics are sometimes the only feasible defence against sophisticated anti-ship mines.

Don Kerr of the London-based International Institute for Strategic Studies said it was difficult and time-consuming to prevent a ship from running an underwater mine as the tanker Bridgeton did.

After the mine exploded, extra lookouts armed with M-14 rifles were posted aboard the bow of one of the escort ships, the USS Kidd, and told to fire at any suspicious objects in the water.

"This is World War I stuff," Kerr told Reuters.

Shultz: U.S. has recovered from Iran arms affair

WASHINGTON (USIA) — Secretary of State George Shultz told the congressional Iran-contra investigating committees that the United States has "gotten over" the damage caused by the National Security Council staff's unauthorized deviation from established policy.

He told the committees July 24, during his final session of testimony before them, that the damage was considerable but that the free world has recovered.

"I think we have gotten over this well," he said. "It was quite a setback for a while. King Hussein in particular was disappointed."

Mr. Shultz paraphrased King Hussein as saying: "Iran is your enemy and you sold them arms. I am your friend and you will not sell your arms to me."

Mr. Shultz declared that sound U.S. policies must be supported despite the Iran-contra affair. "Support for the freedom fighters (in Nicaragua) is essential," he said. "The instinct for freedom has come to pass in four countries" in Central America, he said in reference to Guatemala, Honduras, El Salvador and Costa Rica.

"If Nicaragua is surrounded by countries that are treating human beings decently, that says something in itself," he asserted.

Mr. Shultz reminded the committees that the Soviet Union can use Nicaragua as a military and political staging area in the Pacific basin just as it uses Cuba in the Atlantic basin.

"They outspend us in the Caribbean and Central America by quite a lot," he said of the Soviets. "And one has to ask why."

He appealed to the Congress to support President Reagan's efforts to promote "freedom, democracy and the rule of law" in "our own neighbourhood."

Mr. Shultz reminded the questioners that "Iran continues to practice terrorism."

He said, for example, that Iranian terrorists were caught trying to "smuggle" large quantities of plastic explosives into the Muslim holy city of Mecca.

"Terrorism is something that you have to fight on an international basis," he said. "We are in this together and we have to fight it together."

House committee chairman Lee Hamilton said in his concluding remarks that Mr. Shultz has helped changed the focus of the hearings from "what went wrong" to "what needs to be done."

Mr. Hamilton said the committees would accept an offer by Mr. Shultz to participate in formulating the committees' final recommendations on how to avoid future aberrations in the normal process of foreign policymaking.

Jordan, Kuwait called valued U.S. allies

WASHINGTON (USIA) — Nominees for U.S. ambassador to Kuwait and Jordan had high praise for the two Middle East countries for their friendly relations with the United States and their efforts to maintain regional stability in the region during Senate confirmation hearings on July 24.

They are W. Nathaniel Howell of Virginia, nominee for ambassador to Kuwait, and Roscoe Seldon Suddarth of Maryland, nominated as ambassador to Jordan.

"The flagging of the (Kuwaiti) tankers (in the Gulf) is an outgrowth of the dialogue and cooperation we have had with the Kuwaiti government," said W. Nathaniel Howell, the Reagan administration's choice for U.S. ambassador to Kuwait.

Mr. Howell, testifying before the Senate Committee on Foreign Relations, said that Kuwait, which maintains diplomatic relations with both Iraq and Iran, "has steadfastly resisted the forces of terrorism and is seeking a political solution" to the Gulf war.

"The success of Kuwait is important beyond Kuwait's own borders," Mr. Howell pointed out.

on. "They (Kuwaitis) have maintained their independence," he said.

Mr. Howell told the committee that America and Kuwait celebrated 25 years of bilateral relations last September. "We have not always agreed with Kuwait on all points," the ambassador-designate said, but he pointed out there had been a "quantum leap" between the United States and Kuwait in discussions of security, energy transfers, education and trade.

When questioned about limitations of the press in Kuwait, Mr. Howell described the Kuwait press as "one of the more vigorous in the Arab World. In fact it enjoys readership beyond its borders," he said.

The second ambassadorial candidate, Roscoe Suddarth, praised Jordan's determination to achieve peace through negotiation in the Middle East and outlined that country's financial gains since achieving independence in 1946.

He described King Hussein's opposition to terrorism. Mr. Suddarth also detailed Jordan's initiatives towards a comprehensive

economic development program on the West Bank.

When asked how peace on the West Bank might be achieved, Mr. Suddarth replied: "We think the best solution would be a (West Bank) association with Jordan. "Our objective," Mr. Suddarth said, "is to get started on negotiations."

"We recognise King Hussein's willingness to negotiate face to face," Mr. Suddarth said, adding that throughout the nations of the Arab World, there is "a yearning for peace."

When asked about the role Palestinians might play in the process, Mr. Suddarth said he saw no indication that Jordan planned to reopen relations with the PLO. "We hope that a way will be found to put together a Jordanian-Palestinian delegation that will be truly representative," Mr. Suddarth said. "Palestinians should be represented at all stages of the peace process."

He also argued that because of very real security concerns, military aid to Jordan by the United States was justified. "Jordan must be allowed to defend itself. We think it has legitimate defence needs."

PLO aide jumps to his death in Rome

ROME (AP) — A PLO official who was convicted in the Achille Lauro hijacking case jumped out of a fifth-floor window of his Rome apartment to his death on Saturday after being told he was about to be extradited to Syria, police said.

Police spokesman Riccardo Infelisi said that an arrest warrant from Syria for Mowaffaq Said Gandura reached Italian authorities on Friday and that he was taken to central police headquarters on Saturday morning for preparation to extradition to Damascus.

Gandura, a 39-year-old Syrian, asked to be taken back to his Rome apartment to get some clothes and money for his Polish wife, who is nine months pregnant, Infelisi said. When he arrived under police escort, he locked himself in the bedroom, and when police forced open the door, they found Gandura climbing out the window, the spokesman said.

"They grabbed hold of him but he was all sweaty and they weren't able to hold on to him. He slipped" and fell to the ground, where he was found dead, Infelisi said.

The spokesman said the warrant charged him with swindling but that he didn't know the exact details of the alleged crime.

On July 10, 1986, a court in Genoa convicted Gandura, described by authorities as a minor official of the Palestine Liberation Organisation office in Rome, of giving false testimony to pre-trial investigators.

Peres says Israel is no threat to Soviet Union

TEL AVIV (Agencies) — Israeli Foreign Minister Shimon Peres Saturday dismissed an accusation by Moscow that the Jewish state was threatening Soviet security by producing a nuclear missile.

"The Soviet Union is not our enemy," he told Armed Forces Radio.

"It is true that the Soviet Union supplied missiles to our (Arab) neighbours and Israel must take appropriate defensive measures. I think the Soviet Union itself knows that it faces no

danger whatsoever from Israel," he said.

Peres was responding to a Hebrew-language broadcast beamed at Israel from Moscow on Thursday saying development of the Jericho II surface-to-surface missile amounted to a nuclear challenge to the Soviet Union.

He did not confirm or deny the existence of the missile, which the Geneva-based Defence Review monthly reported this week reached a distance of 820 kilometres in a May test.

Soviets may not support arms embargo on Iran

MOSCOW — Soviet support for a United Nations effort to end the Iran-Iraq war does not necessarily extend to a possible international embargo on arms shipments to the combatants, a Soviet official and Middle East diplomats have said.

The Soviet official, who is involved in Middle East policy but asked not to be identified, said Moscow's interest in maintaining good relations with Iran might preclude endorsement of an arms ban aimed at bringing Iran into compliance with a Security Council resolution, unanimously approved Monday calling for a ceasefire. American officials, encouraged by the Soviet vote in the Security Council and recent discussions in Moscow by Gen. Vernon Walters, the chief American delegate to the United Nations, have said they were optimistic that Moscow would support an embargo if one became necessary.

It is not known whether Gen. Walters was given specific assurances that support for an embargo

go would be forthcoming, or whether he inferred from the talks that Moscow might provide a positive response.

Middle East diplomats said they would be surprised if Moscow supported an arms embargo because Iran would see such a step as a symbolic political slap.

Although Moscow is the main supplier of arms to Iran, and is a direct supplier to Iran — there have been reports of indirect arms shipments from Moscow — the Soviet Union has managed to keep relatively friendly relations with Iran.

After a period of increased tensions between the two countries earlier this year, diplomatic ties recovered in recent weeks, according to Arabs.

"The Soviet Union has nothing to lose by supporting the resolution but it has a lot to lose with an embargo against Iran," one Arab diplomat said. "Moscow does not want to undermine its long-term relationship with Iran" — The New York Times.

TV & RADIO

JORDAN TELEVISION	22:00	Evening Show continued
Tel: 77111-19	23:00	News Summary
	23:57	News Headline
	24:00	Close Down
PROGRAMME ONE		
15:30	Koran	
15:50	Programme Review	
16:15	Children's programmes	
17:20	Give Me A Brake	
17:50	Local Agricultural programme	
18:20	Arabic series	
19:15	Local programme	
19:50	Programme review	
20:00	News in Arabic	
21:30	Local legal debate	
22:30	Arabic series	
23:30	T.V. Magazine (local)	
23:10	News Summary in Arabic	
23:10	T.V. Magazine contd.	
PROGRAMME TWO		
17:30	French film: Deux Batons pour un Rocker	
19:15	News in French	
19:30	News in Hebrew	
19:45	Varieties	
20:00	News in Arabic	
20:30	Growing Pains	
21:10	Mysteries of Peru (documentary)	
22:00	News in English	
22:20	Hunter (drama)	
23:10	Ropers (Comedy)	

RADIO JORDAN

855 KHz, AM & 90 MHz, FM	partly on 950 KHz, SW	Tel: 77111-10
07:00	Light Music	
07:30	Newsdesk	
08:00	Morning Show	
08:30	News Summary	
11:05	In Concert	
12:00	News Summary	
12:05	Pop Talk	
13:05	Pop Session contd.	
14:00	News Bulletin	
14:10	Instrumentals	
14:30	Science Report	
15:00	Concert Hour	
16:00	News Summary	
16:05	Instrumentals	
16:30	Old Favourites	
17:00	Listeners' Choice	
18:00	News Summary	
18:05	Jazz Hour	
19:00	Newsdesk	
19:30	Date with a Star	
20:00	Evening Show	
21:00	News Summary	
21:05	Evening Show continued	
21:55	News Summary	

WHAT'S GOING ON

TODAY'S EVENTS

EXHIBITIONS

* Plastic art exhibition at the University of Jordan.

* A combined exhibition of pressed flowers and water colours by Had-Lara Mingo and Tracy Bannan at the gallery of the Jordan Intercontinental Hotel (until August 6).

* Pottery exhibition by students from Yarmouk University at the British Council (until July 30).

JERASH FESTIVAL (July 8-31)

Sunday 26/7/87

* South Theatre: 7:30-11 — The Moscow State Ballet Theatre

* Sound & Light: 8-9 — Children's Play: Butterflies Dancing

9:30-10:30 — French Trapeze Troupe

CULTURAL CENTRES

Royal Cultural Centre - Tel. 6610267

American Centre - 644371

American Centre Library - 641520

British Council - 6364778

French Cultural Centre - 637005

Goethe Institute - 641993

Soviet Cultural Centre - 642023

Spanish Cultural Centre - 620409

Turkish Cultural Centre - 639777

Haya Arts Centre - 651916

Y.W.C.A. - 641793

Y.W.M.A. - 664251

Amman Municipal Library - 637111

Univ. of Jordan Library - 843555

MUSEUMS

* Children's Heritage and Science Museum. Fun and knowledge for all

FOR THE TRAVELLER

QUEEN ALIA INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT

This information is supplied by Royal Jordanian (RJ) information department at the Queen Alia International Airport Tel. (06) 523005, where it should always be verified.

ARRIVALS ROYAL JORDANIAN (RJ) FLIGHTS (Terminal 1)

10:00	Kuwait (RJ)
10:15	Agaba (RJ)
10:30	Cairo (MS)
10:45	Jeddah (SV)
11:00	Dubai (EK)
11:15	Jeddah (SV)
11:30	Doha, Bahrain (RJ)
11:45	Dubai, Abu Dhabi (RJ)
12:00	London (RJ)
12:15	Cairo, Agaba (RJ)
12:30	New York, Amsterdam (RJ)
12:45	Los Angeles, Chicago, Vienna (RJ)
13:00	Madrid, Geneva (RJ)
13:15	Tripoli (add. 1) (RJ)
13:30	Brussels, Rome (RJ)
13:45	Paris, Frankfurt (RJ)
14:00	Baghdad (RJ)

OTHER FLIGHTS (Terminal 2)

09:55	Berlin, Larnaca (IF)
11:30	Berlin (add. 1) (ME)
13:30	Jeddah (SV)
13:40	Muscat, Abu Dhabi, Bahrain (GF)
14:35	Kuwait (RJ)
15:10	Dubai (EK)
15:45	Jeddah (SV)
17:30	Baghdad (RJ)
17:35	Athens (OA)
18:10	Frankfurt (LH)
06:45	London, Cairo (BA)

DEPARTURES ROYAL JORDANIAN (RJ) FLIGHTS (Terminal 1)

06:00	Agaba (RJ)
11:30	Tripoli (add. 1) (RJ)
12:00	Tunis, Casablanca (RJ)
12:00	Vienna, New York (RJ)
13:30	Cairo (RJ)
14:30	Kuwait (RJ)
14:45	Dubai, Muscat (RJ)
15:15	Baghdad (RJ)
21:00	Larnaca (RJ)
22:15	Cairo (RJ)
22:40	Jeddah (add. 1) (RJ)

USEFUL TELEPHONE NOS.

NIGHT DUTY

		Civil Defence rescue	661111
		Fire headquarters	622090
		Police rescue	192, 621111, 637777
		Police headquarters	639141
		Traffic police	2963090
		Electric Power Co.	6363814, 624688
		Municipal water complaints	7711250
		Queen Alia Intl. Airport	(08)5330600
AMMAN:			
Dr. Suhail Tannous	894964		
Dr. Jamil Maraga	776149		
Dr. Munir Wardah	782372		
Dr. Atef Dabbas	668384		
Khalid pharmacy	1-1		

Firemen put out blaze in large Amman store

AMMAN (Petra) — Civil defence firemen worked into the early hours of Saturday to control and extinguish a fire which engulfed one of the major stores on Wadi Sagra Street in Amman.

Lt-Colonel Abdul Ra'ouf Al Keilani from the Civil Defence Department (CDD) said that the fire destroyed the contents of the store, which among included pieces of furniture, ornaments and chandeliers.

The CDD was alerted in the early hours of the day and rushed to the scene. The firemen prevented its spreading to neighbouring areas, Lt-Col Keilani noted. He said that it took the firemen less than an hour to put out the fire.

According to CDD sources, investigations are now underway to discover the cause of the fire. Lt-Col Keilani appealed to store owners to make sure that their power switches are turned off and that gas bottles are firmly closed before closing for the day. He said that all stores should have sufficient ventilation, and that inflammable materials should be stored safely.

Lt-Col Keilani urged all store owners to seek the guidance and the help of the CDD for advice on storage procedures.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Royal Decree approves ambassador

AMMAN (Petra) — A Royal Decree has been issued approving the appointment of Jordanian ambassador to Pakistan, Fakhri Abu Taleb, as Jordan's non-resident ambassador to Bangladesh.

Pakistan to hold industrial fair here

AMMAN (Petra) — Ministry of Industry and Trade Under Secretary Mohammad Al Saqqaf discussed Saturday with Pakistani ambassador in Amman, Saghir Hussein Syed, economic cooperation between Jordan and Pakistan. Mr. Syed told Mr. Saqqaf that Pakistan will hold an exhibition of Pakistani industries in Amman during the second half of September to introduce Pakistani products and industries to the Jordanian public. Mr. Saqqaf welcomed the idea and promised to provide the necessary facilities to make the exhibition a success.

Universities begin application process

AMMAN (Petra) — The four Jordanian universities Saturday started accepting applications for study from new students by mail. The acceptance of applications at post offices will continue until August 3. The four universities are: the University of Jordan, Yarmouk University, Jordan University of Science and Technology, as well as Mu'ta University of Karak.

U of J president meets with Petra group

AMMAN (J.T.) — University of Jordan President Abdul Salam Al Majali met Saturday with a delegation of U.S. professors and students currently on a visit to Jordan as members of the Petra Programme, sponsored by the Arab Cultural Association and the Washington-based National Council on U.S.-Arab Relations. Dr. Majali explained to the delegation the university's development, facilities and programmes. He also briefed them on the development of education in Jordan. The programme was created three years ago to offer Americans the chance to experience first hand Arabic culture and tradition.

Int'l youth groups visit SOS village

AMMAN (Petra) — Members of the groups taking part in the first international youth festival, visited Saturday the Jordan's SOS Children's Village. They offered financial donations to the village, which each group collected in its country. The groups, totalling 85 youths, will perform tonight at the Jerash Festival. The youths are from Egypt, Tunisia, Bahrain, Jordan, Britain, U.S., Austria and West Germany.

Odd deaths prompt PSD statement

AMMAN (Petra) — The Public Security Department (PSD) issued a statement Saturday clarifying circumstances under which three people died while police were conducting investigations related to their cases.

In one of the cases, the PSD report said, an Egyptian national, aged 35 and identified only as B.M.H., was found unconscious on July 18 in a building still under construction where he worked as a guard.

The man had a roommate identified only as 40-year-old F.H.M., who worked for a local company, the report added. The police brought in the roommate for interrogation but found him to be drunk and sent him and the unconscious man to Al Bashir Hospital. The hospital reported that the drunk man was mentally ill, while the other was in a coma from a poison he had swallowed.

The police later learnt that the two had had relations with a woman and she too was apprehended for interrogation, according to the report.

In a second case, the report said, a melon seller was found dead in his tent on July 7. The man identified as R.S.R., 63, was reported by the coroner later to have overdosed on medicines prescribed for him and died of heart failure.

The coroner's report indicated that there were no signs of wounds on his body and that the medicine was responsible for his death.

In a third case, the report said,

that one of the suspects in the case of the murder of Muhieddeen Bashedi was brought in by the police for interrogation. The man identified only as A.B. was taken to Luweibdeh police station and placed in a room only to be found later unconscious, according to the report.

It said that the man was rushed to the nearby Luzmila Hospital where he was found to have swallowed a large dose of medicine. Hospital staff pumped his stomach and then tried to resuscitate him, but failed. The coroner determined that the drugs had caused heart failure. According to the report, a suicide note was found in his pocket asking his mother to forgive him.

Mr. Bashedi died when he was shot by an unidentified assailant earlier this month who made off with an estimated JD 100,000 in Jordanian and foreign currency. The police are still investigating the case.

Arab banks review steps to deal with slow-down

AMMAN (Petra) — The Federation of Arab Banks (FAB) opened a six-day seminar in Amman Saturday to discuss marketing, management, and modern trends in the banking business in the Arab World.

Delegates from nine Arab states taking part in the meetings heard an address by the Governor of the Central Bank of Jordan (CBJ), Hussein Al Qasem, in which he outlined the importance of holding symposiums and meetings to discuss ways of promoting the banking systems and operations.

Arab banks have contributed to the development of Arab states by facilitating investments, Mr. Qasem said in his opening speech.

He observed that the oil boom in the Arab World in the 1970s and the early 1980s had given a temporary boost to the banks and their operations, but the economic recession which followed has had its adverse effects on the banks, which form a vital part of the Arab nations' economy.

Jordan, he said, has adopted constructive initiatives designed to boost the Arab World's economy.

— The FAB, he added, has been instrumental in helping to establish the Arab Banking Institute in Amman. This institute, he said, will commence operation by the

beginning of 1988.

The FAB acting secretary general, Hassan Al Hindi, also addressed the opening session, referring to the importance of qualified personnel in handling Arab banking operations. The projected Arab Banking Institute in Amman, he said, will offer theoretical as well as practical training to personnel.

VOA to hold call-in panel on AIDS

AMMAN (J.T.) — U.S. Surgeon General C. Everett Koop and other experts on Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome (AIDS) are scheduled to answer listener questions from around the world on a special live call-in show broadcast by the Voice of America, according to a USIS press release.

The show will be aired on Sunday, July 26 from 8:18 to 10:00 p.m. Jordan local time.

Listeners worldwide will be able to get their questions answered by telephoning a Washington, D.C. number — 202-485-6306 — collect.

— Voice of America can be heard best in Jordan at this time of the day on a short wave of 9700 KHz and 9760 KHz.

Khayyat inspects facilities for pilgrims

MEDINA (J.T.) — Minister of Awqaf and Islamic Affairs Sheikh Abdul Aziz Al Khayyat has described the health condition of all Jordanian pilgrims in Saudi Arabia as very good. Apart from cases of exhaustion and headaches, no other problems have been reported, the minister said, after making an inspection tour of the pilgrims and visiting their lodgings.

Dr. Khayyat is heading Jordan's official mission accompanying the pilgrims to Mecca. He will take part in the religious rites to be held in the holy city prior to the Eid Al Adha "Feast-of-the-Sacrifice" early next month.

The minister said that the Jordanian mission has completed all procedures for putting up the pilgrims in Mecca, during their performance of the pilgrimage rites in and around the city.

The minister paid tribute to Saudi Arabian authorities who, he said, have been cooperating with the Jordanian mission to provide all means of convenience and rest for the pilgrims.

Sheikh Khayyat also chaired a meeting of the pilgrimage mission in Mecca and discussed reports on the pilgrims' trip to the holy places.

2nd heart transplant patient in 3 days in satisfactory condition

AMMAN (J.T.) — A team of heart specialists from the Queen Alia Heart Centre performed another heart transplant Saturday, making it the second such operation in three days. The patient, Mrs. Ilham Yousef Mohammad, 25, was reported in satisfactory condition.

Mrs. Mohammad, who had been suffering from congestive heart disease, received her new heart from Abdul Majid Ayesh Al Damiri, who suffered a brain hemorrhage as a result of a road accident.

The relatives of the deceased donated his heart to the woman and also his two kidneys to a 17-year old girl named Hiyam Ibn Talal and a 33-year-old man named Nader Nimri.

The heart transplant operation was the seventh to be performed in Jordan.

The surgical team was headed by Major General Dr. Da'oud Hanania, director of the Armed Forces medical services.

Dr. Munir Arida, a cardiologist who participated in the operations, said that the patients' conditions were satisfactory.

On Thursday, the same surgical team performed a heart transplant operation on Hussein Al Abbadi, 31, who received his heart from Ibrahim Mohammad Qataweh, 25.

Dr. Arida told the Jordan Times that Mr. Qataweh's family donated his two kidneys for Adnan Othman, 28, and Kifah Sidki, 18. They underwent successful kidney transplant surgery. All three were reported, by Dr. Arida, to be regaining health.

Dr. Arida said that Mr. Abbadi was suffering from congestive heart disease and had been at King Hussein Medical Centre for nearly a month receiving treatment, until he was given the new heart.

NAF discusses paper on poverty

AMMAN (J.T.) — The National Aid Fund (NAF) spends JD 200,000 monthly to help needy families, and carry out vocational training programmes that benefit poor and handicapped persons in Jordan, according to a report by the NAF's board of directors.

It said in a statement issued following board meeting held Saturday under the chairmanship of Minister of Labour and Social Development Khaled Al Haj Hassan, that a total of 10,500 families, consisting of an estimated 75,000 people, benefit from the NAF's operations and programmes.

In November last year, the NAF's board decided to give up to JD 20 a month to poor and needy families, only three months after the Lower House of Parliament approved the NAF's charter.

The board meeting was called to discuss the 1988 budget. The statement said that the board reviewed a technical committee's report on pockets of poverty in the Kingdom.

This study is designed to define the level of poverty in Jordanian society and the places where poverty is most acute. The technical committee's report is designed to help chart proper strategies to help execute the NAF's programmes designed to eliminate poverty from the country, the statement said.

The study, according to the statement, is divided into three stages: abject poverty requiring basic aid, a determination of the poverty line, and the volume of aid needed.

The technical committee toured districts of the Kingdom before filing the report.

Addressing the meeting, the minister said that the study was of prime importance and serves as a fundamental element of the NAF's endeavours. The government has allocated JD 70,000 for the study which, the minister said, will be the basis for future NAF's operations.

In 1982, the Jordan Times published a study which indicated that 30 per cent of the total population in Jordan lived below the "relative" poverty line.

Upon the inception of the NAF last year, Mr. Haj Hassan said that the government had allocated JD 1.5 million in the 1986 budget to help offer assistance to needy families. Before the law came into being the Ministry of Labour and Social Development had been offering substantial help to 8,000 families at the cost of JD 750,000 a year.

Designs take shape for Karameh Dam

AMMAN (J.T.) — The Jordan Valley Authority (JVA) is proceeding with design work for the JD 45 million (\$131 million) Karameh Dam, in the southern Jordan Valley. Designs should be finished by the end of 1987, ahead of a planned February 1988 donors' meeting for the scheme. Construction work should start in May 1988, for completion in three years, says JVA Dams Department Vice-President Zafar Alem.

The dam — formerly known as Mafaha — will be able to impound 55 million cubic metres. It

will be used to store surplus water from the King Abdullah Canal in winter, and side wadi floodwater.

The water will be used to bring 3,000 hectares under irrigation. Supplies will also come from the newly completed King Abdullah Canal extension, which was built by West Germany's Josef Rieple in a JD 9.4 million (\$27 million) contract.

The canal extension will provide water irrigation for 6,000 hectares. The dam water will be used for year-round irrigation of 1,200 hectares of citrus groves, and a similar area of vegetables and other crops.

Project consultant is the U.K. Sir Alexander Gibb and Partners; finance is expected from the World Bank and Arab aid funds.

The JVA expects in August to sign a contract with the U.S. Harza Engineering Company for a feasibility study on an estimated JD 25 million (\$73 million) scheme to build small dams in side wadis of the Jordan Valley.

These are expected to include Wadi Al Yahis, Wadi Kufranfeh, a regulatory dam at the Zarqa River, and a project to raise the Kufrein Dam.

World-class Moscow ballet troupe offers rare treat

By Najwa Najjar
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — Audiences at Jerash will have a rare treat as one of the best ballet companies in the world goes on stage at the South Theatre. The USSR Moscow State Ballet Theatre will perform "The Tricks of Terpsichore" tonight and "The Creation of the World" Monday night, both shows lasting from 7:00 - 11:00 p.m.

Natalye Kasatkina and Vladimir Vasilev, hailed as the Soviet Union's finest artistic directors and managers, told reporters at a press conference that 45 of the 142 dancers have come for the Jerash Festival. "Two of the company's soloists, who have won gold medals in international festivals and competitions, will be dancing here," said Mr. Vasilev.

Alexandre Gorbatshev, lead dancer in "The Tricks of Terpsichore," has won an international gold medal and a prize at the Dance Academy of Paris. While leading man, Isayev Stanislav, in "The Creation of the World" has won two international gold medals and the first prize at the Dance Academy of Paris, he said. In recent years the company's soloists have won an overall of 11 gold medals and two silver medals at international ballet festivals and competitions and have received three of the highest awards



JERASH FESTIVAL

of Culture & Arts
8-23 July 1987

at the Dance Academy of Paris.

In the first ballet, "each role is a leading role and the dancers will present a concert performance based on the theme of the intense competition for ballet troupes," said Ms. Kasatkina. "It shows many aspects of ballet life including the threats that takes place and the fear felt throughout the trypouts and discussions." "The Tricks of Terpsichore" is done to the music of Johann Strauss.

"The Creation of the World" is a typical classical ballet which brings to life the Biblical story of the creation of the world. "The dancers show how humanity was born with Adam and Eve's struggle, done to the music of the Soviet composer A. Petrov," she continued.

Since the orchestra was unable

to accompany the troupe, all music has been put on tape.

Both ballets have incorporated some of the greatest Russian pas de deux (performances for two dancers) including the works of several classics. Ms. Kasatkina and Mr. Vasilev, both former leading performers at the Bolshoi ballet, have created pieces on the basis of classical ballet using academic and modern styles. Their choreography includes all types of movements, from the classical and folk, to the grotesque and eccentric. To them ballet is a synthesis of all expressive means.

Both directors have been working as ballet masters, theatre directors and writers of musical theatre for the past 20 years and are considered innovators in these fields. They joined the USSR Moscow State Ballet Theatre in 1977. Since then they have been awarded two of the highest state awards for art by the Soviet government.

Their repertoire which was established in 1966 by the Soviet Ministry of Culture, has dancers whose ages range from 18 to 38. Two of the youngest dancers, Ifiga Galgoman and Vladimir Malacko, are part of the 45 presently in the Kingdom. Mr. Vasilev believes they are bound to be stars on the international level in the near future.

Ms. Kasatkina noted that the

life of a ballet dancer's career is usually no longer than 20 years at most "because of the hectic and demanding lives they lead." She explained that training consists of morning classes followed by eight hours of rehearsals daily.

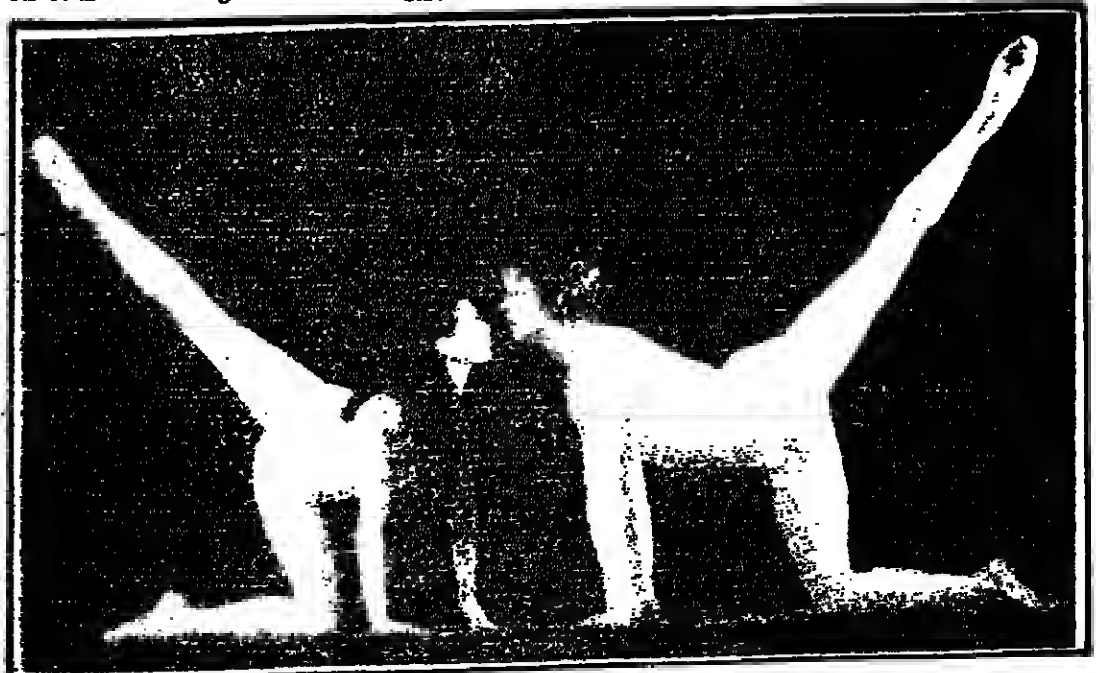
No new dancer can join the company unless one of the dancers retires, "so every year only one or two new dancers enter the group," Ms. Kasatkina said. The applicants must have professional-level training and have the natural build necessary in order to try out.

The company has toured in 200 cities of the Soviet Union and in over 30 countries, covering all the continents. They have visited Egypt, Syria, Iraq, and Algeria in the Arab World.

This is their second visit to Jordan, the first being in 1979. After the Jerash Festival, the company will head to Romania, France, and Vietnam, and a half year tour in the United Kingdom and U.S. is being planned for next year.



The USSR Moscow State Ballet Theatre performs a scene from "The Tricks of Terpsichore."

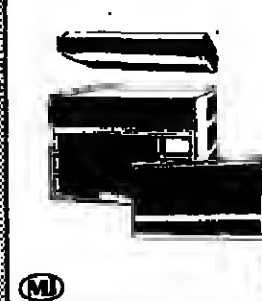


Two of the troupe's dancers reenact the Biblical story of Adam and Eve in the ballet "The Creation of the World."

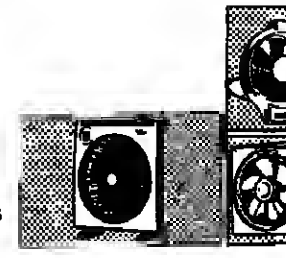
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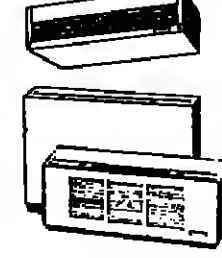
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Sunday's Economic Pulse

Open bridges: Open channels for hard currency

By Dr. Fahed Fanek

DURING the deliberations of the Third Expatriates Conference in Amman, the policy of open bridges between the East and West Banks of Jordan received fresh support. However, the support in itself was an indication that the policy in itself, has never been taken for granted. The open bridges policy should be kept as a live subject. Their positive and negative consequences must continue to be subjected to vigorous re-evaluation in the light of changing circumstances and the terms and conditions imposed by the Israeli occupation.

At the outset, following the June 1967 Israeli aggression, there was a lot of hesitation on whether we should leave the bridges open or close them. The view of keeping them open prevailed due to human and national considerations, and on the assumption that occupation would not last long.

Occupation protracted more than was anticipated. After twenty years, the two banks of Jordan are still divided, and the Israelis imposed unfair rules and eventually converted the bridges into a cash cow. They collect over JD 15 million a year in fees for allowing people and vehicles to cross the bridges in both directions.

It should be pointed out here that the bridges were not used evenly in both directions, as one may assume. In fact some 850,000 West Bankers crossed eastwards since 1967, far more than those

who crossed westwards. This phenomenon contributed to a partial evacuation of the occupied territories and obviously eased the demographic problem facing the Jewish state.

Consequently the number of West Bank inhabitants at the beginning of 1987 is almost the same as it was twenty years ago. This meant that, on average, around 3.8 per cent of the population under occupation were migrating each year since 1967.

Israel planned the economic activity through the bridges in a way to serve its own selfish objectives, at the expense of Jordan. Commodities were allowed to cross the bridges in one direction — eastwards. The products of the East Bank were not allowed to cross the bridges to the West Bank which is used as a captive market for Israeli goods and raw materials.

Conversely, capital is allowed to cross in the opposite direction — westwards, to be absorbed later by Israel. It is not a coincidence that Israel is making some \$800 million a year of net surplus in its balance of payments with the West Bank, which is exactly the net deficit that Jordan makes in its balance of payments with the West Bank.

We of course understand and appreciate the human and the national factors. We definitely do not call for an abrupt closure of

the bridges. We know it is convenient for those residing in the West Bank or working abroad. However other considerations should not be altogether ignored. By no means can we allow the occupation authorities to act as if decisions are left to its sole discretion. The West Bank should not be allowed to become an easy source of hard currency for the occupiers. Nor should the West Bank be allowed to serve as a meeting and exchange point between the Jordanian and the Israeli economies on an unfair basis. This could hurt our economy beyond imagination.

We of course realise that the majority are in favour of the open bridges policy. We ourselves don't want the bridges closed tomorrow or the day after. We only think that the closing of the bridges should always be a practical and possible option, subject to economic, social and political cost — benefit analysis.

We realise that a notorious occupation is at work in the West Bank. It should be dealt with like an occupation, and made look like an evil occupation which it is. We should also be ready to accept the sacrifices called for by occupation, be it human or social suffering, irrespective of whether we happen to be in the West Bank, East Bank, or abroad.

The Egyptian connection

EGYPTIAN Foreign Minister Esmat Abdul Meguid's recent official visit to Israel was certainly an eye opener. Although described by both Mr. Abdul Meguid and Israeli Foreign Minister Shimon Peres as a success, the talks of Mr. Abdul Meguid with Israeli policy-makers, including Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir, nonetheless proved beyond a shadow of doubt that Egypt's geopolitical weight vis-a-vis Israel was not enough to sway Mr. Shamir into accepting the principle of convening an international peace conference on the Middle East. The euphoria generated by the Egyptian foreign minister's visit to Israel was thus quickly dissipated. Mr. Shamir's counterproposals to Mr. Abdul Meguid were the same old sterile proposals which called for the resurrection of the "autonomy" talks under the 1978 Camp David accords or the convening of a truncated regional peace conference confined to one superpower, i.e., the U.S. and some of the parties to the conflict in the Middle East.

We cannot agree more with Mr. Abdul Meguid's description of Mr. Shamir's ideas as "a non-starter." On their face, Mr. Shamir's counterproposals are decoys thrown in the path of the peace process by the Likud Bloc and their extreme-right wing supporters. Such proposals have been rejected by the Arab side over and over again. Yet Mr. Shamir stubbornly clings to them in utter defiance of the international community's preference for a peace conference as a viable avenue to attain durable and just peace in our region. We think that the U.S. can still do more in support of Egypt's insistence on the conference idea by coming out clearly, solidly and strongly in favour of convening it as soon as possible. By hesitating, the U.S. has been sending the Likud Bloc the wrong signals. With the Israelis divided over the issue of the conference, the political climate is more susceptible to a clear and unequivocal U.S. stance. No one can deny the leverage that the U.S. enjoys with Israel. This time, at least, the Reagan administration does not need worry about the Jewish lobby in Washington because at least half of the Israeli voters appear to be in favour of holding an effective conference to resolve the Palestinian conflict once and for all.

Egypt, likewise, can still exert more pressure on Israel in this regard. Being the only Arab country which maintains diplomatic relations with Israel, its leverage should not be underestimated. The overall geopolitical considerations in the Middle East, coupled with Israel's strategic planning and projections, are now premised on Israel's ability to enjoy at least normal relations with Egypt. Should Egypt send clear signals to Israel that its long-range relations with Cairo are dependent on the outcome of the stalled peace process, Egypt can do a lot to accelerate the peace process and bring pressure to bear on the Israeli policy-makers to heed the international call for an effective and successful conference on the Middle East. We support more sustained Egyptian efforts in order to realise the projected and long-awaited peace conference. A strong message from Egypt that its relations with Israel would be endangered by the lack of Israeli cooperation in the conference could be just the message needed to awaken the Likud Bloc and its supporters to the dangers that lie ahead if the peace process is stalled for much longer.

ARABIC PRESS EDITORIALS

Al Ra'i: Superpower games

NO one could feel relieved at the news of a Kuwaiti tanker raising the American flag hitting a mine in the Gulf waters and no one could be happy to hear the Iranian reaction which reflected rejoicing among the Tehran rulers over the incident. But we have to point out that the incident is extremely dangerous and clearly shows that the U.S. navy accompanying the tanker has failed to ensure security for the Kuwaiti vessel. This fact clearly underlines another: That the presence of superpower fleets in the Gulf region is not the ideal way for guaranteeing international shipping. The presence of superpower fleets bears dangerous elements with serious repercussions. Realising this fact British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher urged Washington to exercise self-restraint and to refrain from reacting to the mine incident. This incident should prompt France to re-consider its decision of sending out its war ships to the Gulf because we wish France would not get involved in the conflict. Guaranteeing international shipping in the Gulf is of the utmost importance; but to achieve that goal, the United States should first regain credibility and should stop supplying weapons to the aggressors, and should not maintain a closed eye on war mongers who ensure secret arms supplies to Tehran.

Al Dustour: Iran defies U.N. resolution

AS the world was expecting Iran to declare its adherence to the most recent U.N. Security Council resolution demanding an end to the Gulf conflict, the international community was shocked to hear about the mine incident in the Gulf waters. By planting these mines Iran seems to be telling the world that it will maintain its defiance of the international community and that it will pursue its plans for endangering peace and security in the Gulf region. The speaker of the Iranian parliament has issued provocative statements threatening to hit Arab Gulf countries if Iraq continued to raid Iranian installations. This announcement reflects a new stage of desperation on the part of Tehran in the light of its total failure in the battlefield along the war front with Iraq. Perhaps this announcement came to find an outlet for the Iranian regime to escape isolation being imposed on Iran by the international community and through the Security Council resolution. Iran is defying the will of the international community and is bent on escalating the tension in the Gulf, and this attitude promoted it to attack a Kuwaiti tanker.

Sawt Al Shaab: Israel's long-range threat

ISRAEL has reported its possession of a rocket with a 1,450 kilometre range capable of carrying a nuclear warhead and reaching the Gulf region. By making the announcement Israel said that it wants to maintain a presence in the Gulf zone where foreign fleets are now converging to ensure the safety of international navigation. Israel's announcement also said that Tel Aviv will be willing to play the role of an agent, safeguarding the interests of various major powers. There is no doubt that the United States has been the supplier of Israel's military power, encouraging the Jewish state to possess nuclear bombs. Yet Washington refrained from issuing any reaction about Israel's announcement. It was only the Soviet Union which issued a warning to Israel against conducting nuclear tests in the Mediterranean. By warning Israel Moscow could be aiming at protecting its own interests and not those of the Arabs, because the 1,450 kilometre range rocket threatens the Soviet Union territory itself. By exploiting the disparity in Arab ranks and capitalising on the Arabs' weakness Israel has been able to build up its nuclear arsenal which is supported by foreign powers; and so it has been able to maintain its blackmail policies against the countries of the Middle East.

By Stephen Hughes

RABAT — Morocco's application to join the European Community signalled its desire for closer political and economic relations with Europe but the probable rebuff may persuade Rabat to turn once again toward North Africa.

Although King Hassan has described Morocco as Europe's "back yard," diplomats say Morocco's application this week — to be considered by the community in September — is unlikely to be accepted because it is not part of Europe.

The Treaty of Rome establishing the community says only European countries are eligible for membership and community officials say this excludes Morocco, an Islamic country obviously part of Africa and the Arab World although only 10 miles from Europe across the Straits of Gibraltar.

Morocco's 1976 cooperation agreement with the EC gives it certain trade and financial advantages but does not qualify it for eventual membership, EC sources said.

Nevertheless Morocco looks to Europe for both political and

economic reasons and Moroccan Foreign Minister Abdelatif Filali said recently Morocco's future lies with Europe more than with Africa.

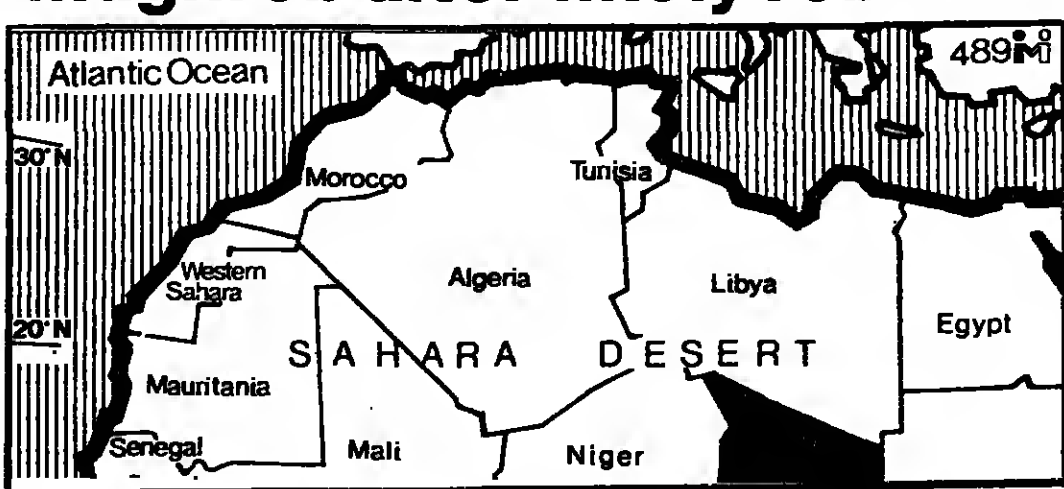
Morocco withdrew from the Organisation of African Unity (OAU) nearly three years ago, in a dispute over the membership of the Saharan Arab Democratic Republic, the self-styled republic proclaimed by Algerian-backed Polisario guerrillas who have been fighting Morocco for independence in the western Sahara since Spain withdrew from the territory in 1976.

Rabat says the republic is not a properly constituted state.

The break with the OAU and the conflict with Algeria over the Western Sahara have left Morocco isolated in North Africa. Morocco and Algeria have had no diplomatic relations for more than 11 years and their border is closed to trade.

Although Rabat continues to cultivate relations with individual African states, diplomats say the OAU boycott marked the beginning of a perceptible swing towards stronger ties with the West in an effort to ease the isolation.

Morocco has strengthened links with the United States, with



its former colonial powers, France and Spain, and other European countries including West Germany, Italy and Britain to which King Hassan paid a state visit last week.

Before the Sahara conflict erupted, Morocco sold large quantities of food to Algeria when the latter's farms were neglected in favour of oil and heavy industry.

With that market closed, the alternative was for Morocco to try to sell more of its citrus fruits,

tomatoes, fish products and other foods to Europe.

But a major problem arose 18 months ago when Spain and Portugal, which can offer the same products, joined the EC. Half of Morocco's imports come from the EC and 40 per cent of exports are sold to the community.

This month, when Morocco negotiates a fishing accord with the EC, diplomats say it will be used as a lever to wrest further concessions from the community since Spain is anxious to maintain

fishing rights in Moroccan coastal waters.

But, diplomats say, Morocco stands to lose in the long term because it will be unable to expand trade with the 12-nation group in the future and with its application to join likely to be rejected, it will have to seek other markets.

Economists say the alternative is for Morocco and Algeria to come to terms, either by settling the Western Sahara issue, or, if it continues to be as intractable as

in the past, by circumventing it and setting up a North African or Maghreb economic community.

When King Hassan first suggested that Morocco join Europe two years ago, EC Commissioner Claude Cheysson poured cold water on the idea and said Morocco should sell its produce instead in North Africa.

Cheysson argued that Europe already produced more food than it needed and its population growth was declining, whereas North Africa was a food importer with a population growing rapidly by about three per cent a year.

Diplomats say the chances of an entente between Morocco and Algeria seem more promising than they have been for years. King Hassan met Algerian President Chadli Benjedid in May and since then there have been intensive diplomatic contacts among the Maghreb states — Morocco, Algeria, Tunisia, Libya and Mauritania.

The main theme of the contacts is the creation of a united Maghreb embracing five states with different political systems, based principally on economic cooperation. Diplomats say this is precisely what Morocco, and Algeria, really need.

German identity faces a double dilemma over the wish for reunification

By Theo Sommer

THE serious crisis of identity facing West Germans can no longer be denied.

Every historical date which reminds us of the past, whether it is May 8 (end of World War II), June 17 (German Unity Day) or August 13 (the day when the building of the Berlin Wall began), whirls up the sediment of uncertainty about our future destiny.

We are wedged between a two-fold dilemma. On the one hand, the contradiction between the emotionalism of a desire for reunification and political possibilities in the real world; on the other, the unsettled conflict between the objective of German unity and the objective of Western European integration.

Life in this antagonistic strait-jacket is gradually wearing us down. We're becoming neurotic. There is no other explanation for the highly sensitive way some West Germans reacted to a speech in the Bundestag by Professor Fritz Stern, an American historian of German descent.

Referring to the events which took place in East Germany on 17 June, 1953, Stern remarked that "this was no uprising in the name of reunification." Stern is right. Workers in East Berlin shouted "Get rid of Ulbricht!" and not "We want Adenauer!"

But why belittle the dignity of their action? They made a stand for freedom, not for German unity.

"I come from a Germany which no longer exists and will never exist again," said Stern. Isn't it time that we started appreciating this fact?

Stern added another bitter truth: "Undivided Germany brought indescribable unhappiness upon other peoples and upon itself." Yet another fact we are unwilling to acknowledge?

Or Stern's concern that Germans might be tempted to go back on their "conversion to Europe and reconciliation with the West" at a time which could be described as the "most successful period in Germany's history"?

The recent discussion on the German Question has been marked by signs of a nationalistic neurosis.

The consensus of the advocates of Realpolitik is still not at risk, and the overwhelming majority of Germans are still uninterested in any dangerous escapades.

Two thirds of all West Germans would like a united Germany, but only eight per cent believe that this can be achieved within the next 10 years.

The gap between desire and expectation reveals a marked sense of reality. The question is, however, how long can a nation

do this kind of psychological splits? It's time we made up our mind, one way or the other.

It is not true that all other nations do want German reunification. What we regard as a pleasant dream is regarded as a nightmare by our neighbours in East and West.

Who really believes that they want a united Germany "because it could also bring its greater influence to bear on peace in their interest too" (a remark made by Walter Scheel in 1978)?

They are already worried about West German hegemony in the economic field. Why should they be convinced "that German unity is the only really effective guarantee for peace in Europe" (Wolfgang Vennh? Certainly not as a result of their historical experience.

American historian David Calleo goes so far as to maintain that "whenever Germans were united in one state they became a threat to themselves and to their environment."

A reunification of the two Germanies would at any rate bring about the greatest conceivable shift in the balance of power.

No-one outside wants to risk that. But what about the Germans themselves? One line of arguments is that we have learnt our lesson from the catastrophe of defeat in World War II and that no-one has had to worry about us since. Yet can we be that sure of ourselves on this score?

Konrad Adenauer, for example, was not. He was not convinced that the Germans would be able to cope with a position of neutrality, a view reflected in his exclamation "God, what is to become of Germany."

Indeed, anyone who hears the demands forwarded by German right wingers, such as "Silesia is ours" or "The Oder-Neisse regions are not forgotten yet", cannot rule out the possibility that the reunification of the Federal Republic of Germany and East Germany would merely serve as a trailer to a revisionist remake.

Do we seriously want to break away from the moorings found after the war in the Atlantic and European Communities?

And, were Gorbachev to send us a new version of the 1952 Stalin notes, do we really want to fall back on the rider of 28 February, 1957, in which Bonn reserves its right to "re-examine" the Treaty of Rome in the event of German reunification?

Can there be a serious interest in withdrawing from the European Community and setting a national imperative above the goal of European integration?

Up to now, we have not given that much thought to these various implications.

We have deluded ourselves into thinking that a general

framework of peace throughout Europe would automatically lead to German reunification and that East Germany would gradually move closer to the Federal Republic of Germany and thus towards the European Community.

We have talked ourselves into believing that, once borders become insignificant, there would be no further obstacles to German unity.

We never thought that we might some day have to choose between our western commitments and our national aspirations.

Almost 44 years have gone by since the division of Germany became a reality.

We should realise today that peace in Europe develops on the basis of the division of Germany rather than on the basis of its reunification.

In answer to our arguments the objection can be raised that unification would become superfluous if borders were to lose their significance.

It now looks as if the time has come to lay down priorities and choose between the dream of a united Germany and the reality of an evolving European Community. Are we willing to risk a renewed crisis of orientation?

During its early years the Federal Republic of Germany

viewed reunification as the main guiding principle for its political pursuits.

Since 1969 we have been pursuing a policy of non-reunification for the sake of human beings on both sides. Isn't it time to give this policy the mark of finality?

The words of Wilhelm Liebknecht could, serve as a motto: *Einigung, nicht Vereinigung* (Unity, not unification).

Reference is frequently made to Bonn President Richard von Weizsacker's remark that "the German Question remains open as long as the Brandenburg Gate remains closed."

Let us turn this logic upside down and make it the guiding principle of future *Deutschlandpolitik*: "If the Brandenburg Gate (and the borders between East and West Germany) are opened the German Question will be closed." It is not necessary for all Germans to live under the roof of one state.

Regardless of respective forms of state organisation, ideological convictions and socio-political systems, however, it is essential that Germans be able to meet each other freely.

The border should be made more passable in both directions. The division should not be regarded as more painful than the relationship between the Germans and Austrians.

Kuwait and U.S. seek to protect tankers from mines in Gulf

(Continued from page 1)

have hit mines on their way to Kuwait ports this year.

Ironically the convoy protecting the Bridgeton and the Cas Prince passed two Soviet minesweepers guarding a Kuwaiti-chartered Soviet tanker shortly after the mine incident early Friday.

Pentagon officials said there was little doubt that Iranians placed the mines that holed the Bridgeton. But until Iranian responsibility can be proved, one Pentagon source said, "it will be hard to justify a retaliatory strike...there's certainly nothing like that working now."

Newspapers in the Gulf quoted anonymous shipping sources as saying that Iranian boats had been active in the area only a few

hours before the convoy appeared. Knowledgeable diplomats in Kuwait said it takes little time to plant the sort of mines that have been found previously in the Gulf.

Diplomatic sources said several ways of clearing the channel and keeping it clear of mines were being considered by Kuwait and the U.S.

One was to ask for the assistance of the Saudi Arabian navy which has four minesweepers and helped to clear the main approach to Mina Al Ahmadi after it was mined in May.

The United States was unlikely to send its own minesweepers to the region because it did not have enough in active service, U.S. experts in Washington said.

A second option would be to use U.S. sonar equipment dragged in the water from U.S. Kuwait or Saudi helicopters. Diplomats said Kuwaiti and U.S. experts were examining the number, type and location of the helicopters required.

Diplomats said the U.S. convoy significantly reduced the threat of direct attack by Iranian planes or gunboats, potentially far more dangerous than mine blasts. Mines were a risk no matter what military precautions were taken, they said.

"It's something the Kuwaitis have to live with and they know that," said one diplomat. "You cannot sweep the entire length of the Gulf for mines."

In Washington, Friday's mine

incident is refueling efforts to block President Ronald Reagan's Gulf policy. Some lawmakers say Congress should decide whether foreign ships fly the U.S. flag.

Charging the Gulf operation "makes the American flag a shooting gallery," lawmakers introduced legislation Friday to end the refueling of foreign vessels unless Congress agreed it was vital to U.S. security.

A few hours after the mine blast, four senators introduced legislation to stop the refueling operation within six months of passage of the bill unless the president certifies that it is vital to the national security interests of the United States and Congress agrees.

The hijacker chose Air Afrique, which is partly financed with French capital, and a flight bound from Brazzaville to Paris, ensuring French nationals would be on board, he noted.

because I wanted to convince the others that I am serious," he quoted the man as saying.

Mr. Ramlawi said he believed the hijacking was related to the Iran-France dispute.

The hijacker chose Air Afrique, which is partly financed with French capital, and a flight bound from Brazzaville to Paris, ensuring French nationals would be on board, he noted.

"I killed him because they don't understand anything except this sort of language. I did it

هكذا مات الراحل

Hypertension and stroke in Jordan

The annual conference of the Jordanian Medical Association has built up a reputation for providing the Arab medical profession with invaluable research findings. This year's meeting, held at the Al Hussein Medical City, was no exception. Here, Sheila Ali-Ostun, Middle East health medical science correspondent in Amman, reports on one of the many papers presented — an Arab first in cardiovascular research.

THE first scientific investigation into the links between hypertension and cardiovascular disease in Jordan has been carried out at the Jordan University Hospital. The head of the research team, Dr. Zakariya Daoud, presented the findings of the study at the recent conference of the Jordanian Medical Association. The object of the research, Dr. Daoud told delegates, was to clarify the role of hypertension as a single factor for the occurrence of stroke in Jordan.

It is known worldwide that hypertension is associated with an increased incidence of atherosclerotic and haemorrhagic stroke in female and male patients of all ages. The development of atherosclerosis in large and medium-sized arteries in the circle of Willis and extracranially, with fibrinoid necrosis — especially of smaller vessels — is increased in the presence of severe hypertension. This situation predisposes the patient to lacunar infarctions or intracerebral haemorrhage within the area of the basal ganglia and internal capsule.

Stroke is a major contributor to both physical and psychological morbidity, Dr. Daoud continued, and according to World Health Organisation statistics, it is ranked as the second cause of death in the industrialised countries. It is also already known that control of hypertension decreases the incidence of stroke and improves the chances of survival.

Dr. Daoud's study at Jordan University Hospital was based on a total of 206 stroke patients during the period of January 1985 to December 1985.

The site of the stroke of each patient was identified by a neurologist using clinical evidence. Where available brain computerised tomography (CT), cerebral spinal fluid (CSF) analysis, electroencephalogram (EEG) and cerebral angiography data were also used. Twelve lead electrocardiograms (ECG) were performed for each patient, together with blood tests for sugar levels, serum cholesterol and triglycerides. Systolic and diastolic blood pressures, were routinely recorded on admission as part of the detailed history, together

males and in 18.6 per cent (16) females, while 12.5 per cent (15) males and 8.4 per cent (7) females were found to have suffered cerebral haemorrhages, added Dr. Daoud.

When these cerebral disorders were broken down according to site, the research team found that 55 per cent, (60) male patients had some sort of neurological deficit on the right-hand side, with 43 per cent females similarly affected. Figures for neurological deficits on the left-hand side of the brain revealed that slightly fewer males were affected — 44.2 per cent, or 53 — compared to females at 55 per cent (48). Just one male and one female patient displayed both left- and right-side deficits. Overall, he reported, right-sided neurological deficit was more frequent in male patients and left-sided deficit more frequent among the females.

Previous studies linking systolic hypertension with the increased risk of stroke were certainly corroborated by his own findings, Dr. Daoud summarised. Nevertheless, there also seemed to be some correlation between systolic and diastolic pressure; his group of patients displayed a closer link between systolic pressure and the occurrence of strokes.

Presumably, the loss of compliance in rigid atherosclerotic arteries was the reason that isolated systolic hypertension appeared to increase with age, Dr. Daoud suggested. He based his assumption on Dyer et al, who found that the greater incidence of stroke in the elderly population with systolic hypertension reflected an underlying arterial disease, serving as a marker for

arterial rigidity.

Referring to the 1981 Framingham study in the USA, undertaken by Kannel et al, Dr. Daoud related that when standardised logistic coefficient for regression was used, systolic hypertension emerged as a significant risk factor for stroke, independent of age, diastolic blood pressure or pulse wave configuration.

Studies of other associated risk factors illustrate that the risk of cerebral stroke increases with the rise of elevated risk factor values. For example, diabetes mellitus occurs in 35.8 per cent of male patients and 44.2 per cent female patients.

The disease is also more prevalent in older patients.

Ischaemic heart disease — acute myocardial infarction and/or ECG features consistent with previous myocardial infarction — was documented in 45 per cent of male and 46.5 per cent of female patients.

Stroke and myocardial infarction are the two most catastrophic consequences of atherosclerosis, sharing risk factors and perhaps even pathogenic mechanisms, Dr. Daoud pointed out.

Stroke has been recognised as a complication of acute myocardial infarction since the label "clinical thrombosis" first surfaced as a clinical entity.

Addressing the risk factor posed by cigarette smoking, Dr. Daoud commented that 42.5 per cent of male patients compared to just 10.5 per cent of the females were smokers. Age had been found to attenuate the hazards of smoking in coronary heart disease.

TABLE I: SYSTOLIC ARTERIAL PRESSURE CATEGORIES (with mean and standard deviation; 120 males, 86 females).

Systolic blood pressure mmHg	Males	%	Females	%
< 140	30	25.0	13	15.12
140-159	34	28.33	21	24.24
> 160	56	46.67	52	60.46
Total	120	100.0	86	100.0
Mean	169.71		166.1	
Standard Deviation	122.4		31.3	

TABLE II: FREQUENCY DISTRIBUTION OF STROKES BY SEX

Sex of patients	No. of thromboses	%	No. of embolisms	%	No. of haemorrhages	%
males	89	74.2	16	13.3	15	12.5
females	63	73.26	16	18.6	7	8.14
total	152	73.8	32	15.5	22	10.7

High-tech study finds evidence of a maze inside Great Pyramid

By Mimi Mann
The Associated Press

CAIRO, Egypt — A Japanese investigator may have found evidence of a maze of passageways deep inside the mysterious Great Pyramid of Cheops — but the team leader says he doesn't expect the maze to lead to the pharaoh's long-sought burial chamber.

In fact, Egyptologist Sakaji Yoshimura doesn't even think Cheops was buried in the pyramid.

Generations of Egyptologists have assumed that the Great Pyramid and two other massive pyramids atop Giza plateau were built as tombs and that Cheops' body and burial finery were spirited away by ancient graverobbers.

"I expect to find his tomb someday," Yoshimura said. "It's probably not far from the pyramid itself, but first we've got to determine what the pyramid is. If it's not a tomb, what is it? And why did the ancient architects choose to build their monuments on Giza plateau?"

The plateau just south of Cairo is home to the pyramids of Cheops, his son Chephren and grandson Mycerinus and the tombs of queens, family members and officials. They and the

Sphinx, at the foot of the plateau, were erected about 4,500 years ago.

Yoshimura's team from Tokyo's Waseda University has just released a 98-page report of a two-week project last winter. They used electromagnetic scanning equipment to look through stone and sand into newly discovered chambers inside the Great Pyramid and other parts of Giza plateau, mainly areas adjacent to Cheops and southward to the Sphinx itself.

Their report catalogued these discoveries:

— A passageway leading off the northwestern wall of the queen's chamber. "We are feeling now it might lead to a series of mazes inside the pyramid itself," Yoshimura said in an interview.

— A large pit 42 metres south of the pyramid "that seems to run under the pyramid and could contain something interesting."

— Evidence of wood and rope found inside a sealed pit adjacent to the pyramid. The same materials were found in a similar pit opened in 1954 and were reassembled into a full-scale cedar boat dedicated to Cheops.

— A pit near the Sphinx's left elbow that apparently contains metal, which Yoshimura said is most likely bronze. He said he hopes the metal heralds an

ancient cache of artifacts, such as one found in 1853 in a temple built for Chephren on the other side of the Sphinx.

— Grooves on either side of the Sphinx that seem to extend under the body, possibly indicating a tunnel.

In an interview, Yoshimura said many of the finds are riddles, and he will need many years and readings from more powerful and specialised equipment to solve them. With permission from Egyptian authorities, he plans a follow-up three-week survey in September.

The team's immediate goal, Yoshimura said, is to discover whether other chambers remain hidden inside the pyramid. Until 1986, the Great Pyramid was thought to have been constructed of more than 2 million tightly fitted limestone blocks, except for passages connecting three exposed chambers, one with a sarcophagus.

Last September, French technicians discovered evidence of a hidden chamber and recorded data that indicated massive interior spaces. Yoshimura's team reconfirmed the French chamber and found evidence of the passageway.

"We might still find chambers with... items to help the pharaoh in his afterlife, but I don't expect

to find a secret burial chamber," Yoshimura said.

"I now believe the pyramid wasn't built as a tomb but was for religious purposes, a symbol for the dangerous journey the dead pharaoh must make through the underworld."

"Tombs were associated with the subterranean world, (but) the pyramids are above ground. Also, I don't think that such an important figure as Cheops would have had a sarcophagus that's so small by pharaonic standards."

Nevertheless, Yoshimura said his team cannot look for the real tomb until they prove that the pyramid doesn't contain another burial chamber. He said the search will be directed toward the pyramid's central point, a short distance from the queen's chamber.

The Japanese team's report that a boat is likely to be in the sealed pit outside Cheops is good news for a planned American-Egyptian effort to probe the pit with remote sensors and trap "ancient air" for analysis.

Sponsored by the Washington-based National Geographic Society, the high-technology effort was to have begun last spring but was postponed by the Egyptian antiquities organisation, which monitors all archaeological projects in Egypt.

Survival courses catch on as business training

By Carolyn Oxlee
Reuters

NASH POINT, Wales — Five young men combed the beach for mussels, winkles and seaweed. They had had nothing to eat for four days except some wild plants and a small weasel which they had trapped.

Victims of a shipwreck? A desert island crash? No, they were taking part in a survival course, designed to teach them how to catch food and build shelters in likely "survival" situations.

Survival and outdoor pursuit courses are becoming increasingly popular in Britain, and are now attracting large numbers of businessmen.

John Wiseman runs a school of survival in Hereford near the England-Wales border. He told Reuters he has received requests from companies to put employees and would-be employees through

courses to see how they react under stress.

"Good training breeds confidence and enthusiasm that will help you overcome anything that life throws at you," he said, adding that companies were demanding courses because they benefit from the increased self-confidence of their employees.

Apart from courses in survival against the elements, companies such as IBM, Marks and Spencer, Barclays Bank, Austin Rover and the state-owned British Rail are encouraging employees to go for adventure training.

They have found that a week of raft-building and climbing steep rockfaces not only boosts the self-confidence of their employees, but also binds them together into a team.

Another group, the Outward Bound Trust, runs adventure courses at four centres around Britain which "take executives

away from what they recognise as safe ground, like golfing," a Trust spokesman said.

One wet, windy day, a team of IBM employees on an Outward Bound course in Wales were taken to the far side of a river, given barrels, planks and some rope, and told to make a raft and paddle themselves back across the freezing water to camp.

On their return, the reward for the sodden, exhausted managers was a military style assault course. On one occasion they were roped together, blindfolded, and told to make their way over a course of obstacles.

"It really moulded us together as a team," one employee said, adding that the importance of good communications between team members was far more obvious on a 30-minute outdoor task than on a two-year project in the office.

In an office, work is generally

orientated towards the successful completion of a task, but Outward Bound tailors courses for companies where the most important factor is how employees work together as a team.

"It doesn't matter if they don't achieve the task on the course, because it won't cost the company thousands of pounds," the spokesman said.

Most of those who go on the courses are men, some are apprehensive beforehand on a course and not all of them enjoy it. Some of the less fit people find it physically demanding and very tiring.

But Wiseman said: "The strong help the weak, and everyone's good at something. Everyone pulls together."

It was certainly not an easy week for the five beachcombers on the survival course. Wiseman had made them live off the land from Tuesday to Friday.

Syria benefits from space technology

By Svetlana Soldatenkova

A spaceship with three cosmonauts aboard took off from the Baikonur Cosmodrome on July 22, 1987. One of them is from the Syrian Arab Republic. On the third day of the flight the ship docked with the Mir Orbital Station that already has the main Soviet crew on board. At 2.30 a.m. July 30, the international crew will return to Earth after fulfilling joint research programmes.

TWO Syrian fliers, Mohammad Fares and Munir Habib, came to the Yuri Gagarin Cosmonaut Training Centre a year and a half ago. Mohammad is thirty-five, and Munir two years younger. Both are professional pilots who have passed the tough selection procedure for cosmonauts.

They completed a theoretical course, studied general space disciplines, design of the spacecraft and the orbital station, and underwent practical training on simulators. Early this year they began training for the space mission as members of the main and backup crews.

Their life in Zvyozdny Gorodok was planned down to the last minute: 7 a.m. — reveille and exercises; 9 a.m. — breakfast, not at home but in the cafeteria with other cosmonauts; 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. — training, then lunch, and hour of rest, more training, dinner, and at 7 p.m. they go

home. In the evening, repetition of lessons, and at 11 p.m. bed. This was their daily routine.

"Don't you feel bored? was my first question to the cosmonauts when we met in Zvyozdny."

"No time for it," replied Munir Habib. "We don't even have enough time to help bring up our children, however our wives do this. Keeping house takes up all their time. Our elder children," the cosmonaut goes on, "that is my son Madyan and Mohammad's daughter Ghadi go to an Arab school in Moscow. The younger sons Raged and Kutayb go to the kindergarten. The children have become adapted here faster than we: They speak Russian better and have a lot of friends. They watch TV in the evening. Madyan is fond of films about the last war. He often tells me episodes from them showing how your people defended your land against the fascists. Such films greatly impress him."

"We spend weekends with our families," says Mohammad Fares. "We visit Moscow, the Bolshoi Theatre, the Pushkin Fine Arts Museum, the circus. We also spend time with other cosmonauts."

"My family has made friends with the families of the cosmonauts Yuri Romanenko and Vladimir Djanibekov," adds Munir Habib. "Munir is also Djanibekov's father-in-law."

"We like everything in Zvyozdny," the cosmonauts say. "It is so



Syrian cosmonauts: Mohammad Fares (right) and Munir Habib

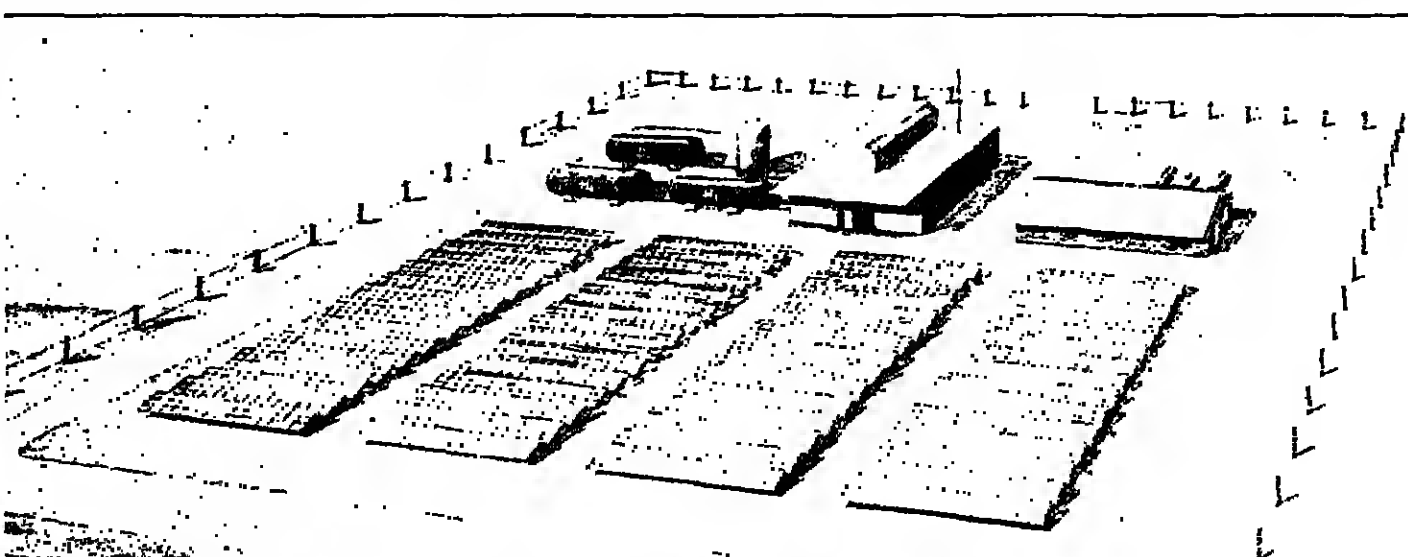
neat, clean and cosy. People are friendly, and the Russian landscape is very beautiful. At first we found it hard to get used to Russian food. Now we have even our favourite dishes."

"We know cosmonauts from different countries," says Georgy Beregovoy, Lieutenant-General of the Air Force, himself a cosmonaut and chief of the Yuri Gagarin Cosmonaut Training Centre. "It seems to me that the Syrians learned Russian quicker than others. They now speak Russian fluently and can do without an interpreter. They are very diligent and responsible, well-wishing and kind towards Russians. Both are well-trained and it was hard for us to decide who will fly and who will be the standby. Mohammad Fares has been included in the main crew

and Munir Habib stands in reserve."

The crew also includes two Soviet cosmonauts who have never made space flights. They are Lieutenant-Colonel Alexander Victorov and Lieutenant-Colonel Anatoly Solovoyov. Victorov, 39, has repeatedly been commander of backup crews for flights to the Salyut and Mir space stations. Solovoyov is 38. Both are first-class pilots.

"What economic benefit will Syria get from this space flight?" I asked Munir Habib. "I think our research in orbit will help solve national economic problems. I wish we could also have our own space research centre. It would be very useful when prospecting for mineral resources and combating environmental pollution" — Moscow News.



An artist impression of the Saudi solar-hydrogen production station, 40 kilometres from Riyadh.

Energy for tomorrow — without hassles?

By Michaela Reckter

THE increasing threat to the world climate resulting from the accumulation of carbon dioxide in the atmosphere, which is produced in the combustion of coal, natural gas, or crude oil, and from the diminishing resources of these fossil energies have made the search for alternative sources of energy a more and more pressing task. The project HYSOLAR which is aimed at producing hydrogen with the help of an unlimited source of energy, namely the sun, seems to brighten up the darkness of the future somewhat.

The technical production of hydrogen in industrialised countries is too expensive, at least in our country, to have a decisive influence on the energy market.

The story is different, though, if solar energy is converted to electrical energy in countries with a large amount of solar radiation, and if this electricity is then used to split up water electrolytically into its compounds, namely hydrogen and oxygen. Compared to the electricity produced originally, hydrogen has the advantage that it can be stored well and

transported easily either in tanks or through gas pipes over long distances.

The best sites for the economical solar production of hydrogen are areas with a high incidence of solar radiation that cannot be used for agricultural purposes, e.g., the deserts of northern Africa or Arabia. According to estimates presented by Dr. Joachim Nitsch and Hartmut Steeb, Deutsche Forschungs- und Versuchsanstalt für Luft- und Raumfahrt, DFVLR (German Aerospace Research Establishment), the need for land is not a problem with respect to using solar energy for the production of hydrogen. The two scientists argue that the current annual demand in the Federal Republic of Germany amounting to some 255 million tonnes of coal equivalents could theoretically be met with this technique, even if only .35 per cent, or some 30,000 square kilometres, of the Sahara's surface were used. The German-Saudi Arabian joint venture HYSOLAR was set up, based on the idea of building a plant for the production of solar hydrogen in a sunny country for demonstration purposes. In February 1986, after

a preparatory period of three years, an agreement was signed in Riyadh between the King Abdulaziz City of Science and Technology (KACST) and the Bundesministerium für Forschung und Technologie, BMFT (Federal Ministry of Research and Technology). The project, which has tentatively been scheduled to last four years, will cost DM 39.2 million.

The cornerstone has literally been laid for one of the several partial programmes under the HYSOLAR project: Construction has recently begun in Stuttgart-Vaihingen on the new building which will house a 10-kilowatt experimental facility. This facility will consist of a solar generator that transforms solar energy into electricity, an electrolyser in which water is split up into its compounds with the help of this electric energy, and aggregates for secondary treatment and storage. The facility is a smaller version of the 100-KW demonstration plant which is being built near Riyadh. The sub-project in Saudi Arabia, once it goes into operation in early 1988, will produce some 44,000 cubic metres of

hydrogen per year providing there is full solar radiation. It will cover a surface of just under 900 square metres. The plant is designed to investigate the reliability and consistency of operations in a facility of this kind, as they would be later on a realistic scale.

The possibility of avoiding a world-wide catastrophe for the climate by replacing fossil energy sources with hydrogen which is friendly to the environment appears to be the ideal solution, based on the results derived from ongoing research efforts. With respect to safety even large solar energy plants are no cause for concern; they cannot be abused such as nuclear energy plants.

And with the appropriate compression technique the existing national and international infrastructures for the supply of natural gas can be used to transport the hydrogen without any problem. However, the main requirement for taking advantage of solar energy in this decentralised fashion via the storage medium hydrogen is a high degree of peaceful international cooperation — German Research Service, Bonn.

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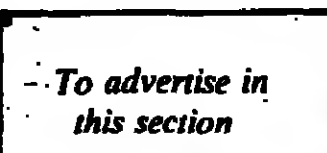
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Reference Point takes away Diamond Stakes

ASCOT, England (AP) — American jockey Steve Cauthen guided English Derby winner Reference Point to a stalls-to-tape victory in the 200,000-pound (\$320,000) King George VI and Queen Elizabeth Diamond Stakes horserace Saturday.

Watched by Queen Elizabeth II, who presented the winner's trophy to owner Louis Freedman, the 11-10 favourite won by three lengths from Celestial Storm with French challenger Triptych finished third for the second successive year by a neck.

Nine of Europe's best thoroughbreds started the 1½ mile (2.4 km) race. Missing from the line-up was Mitto, which beat

Reference Point three weeks ago in the Eclipse Stakes at Sandown, but was pulled out Thursday because of the heavy going.

Cauthen, who also was in the saddle when Reference Point won the Derby at Epsom last month, rode an identical race. His three-year-old colt burst from the stalls to hit the front, with another American jockey, Cash Asmussen, in second place aboard the former German Der-

by winner, Acatenango.

Asmussen stayed in touch with the leader, ahead of Irish Derby winner Sir Harry Lewis, Triptych and Dual English and Irish Oaks victor Unite.

Coming out of the first right hand turn, however, Cauthen had established a two-length lead over the field and it was only when Triptych and then Celestial Storm made their moves in the final two furlongs (400 metres) that he looked in any danger.

As Reference Point quickened, Triptych, ridden by Hong Kong-based Tony Cruz, was beaten and was caught in the last few strides by Ireland's Ray Cochrane on Celestial Storm.



Anne... the royal rider
Princess Anne wins race on her mother's course

ASCOT, England (AP) — Princess Anne, daughter of Queen Elizabeth II and a former Olympic equestrian competitor, Saturday guided 9-1 shot Ten No Trumps to victory in the Dresden Diamond Stakes at Ascot, a race-course owned by her mother.

The 36-year-old princess, who competed in the three-day event at the 1976 Montreal Olympics, posted her second horse-racing triumph on the flat in 16 starts. The race, for amateur women riders, was over one mile (1.6 km) of the famous Ascot course. The princess led the 16 riders from halfway and opened up a two-length lead with two furlongs (400 m) to go.

Tahilla, the 7-4 favourite ridden by Carolyn Eddery, began to challenge but the princess, roared on by a packed crowd, picked up speed and was moving further away from the field at the tape. The official winning distance was four lengths.

The race was on the same card as one of Europe's most prestigious races, the 200,000-pound (\$320,000) King George VI and Queen Elizabeth Diamond Stakes, being run later.

Princess Anne's prize for winning the race was a gold necklace with a horse-head motif, incorporating a pear-shaped diamond. Interviewed on television by the British Broadcasting Corporation (BBC), the princess was wearing her prize.

She said: "I was waiting for something to take me on, but nothing did. Once I got into the straight, I made for the rail and didn't look back."

"She was striding out well. He didn't seem to need any extra effort from me," she said. "It was the first time Princess Anne had won on the famous Ascot Racecourse, the venue each June for the Royal Ascot meet, where she joins other members of the royal family for a traditional ride in front of the grandstand in open carriages."

Her only previous race success was on Gullfand at Redcar, north England, last August.



BID TO SAVE BALL: Ibrahim Murad Palestine Club goalkeeper (left) runs back to protect his net during a soccer match Saturday between Palestine Club and the Lebanese Sports and Literature Club at Amman's stadium. The match was drawn at 3-3 (Photo by Yousef Al 'Allan)

China continues to dominate in Asian track and field

SINGAPORE (AP) — China picked up four gold medals on Saturday to continue its domination at the 7th Asian Track and Field meet.

Chinese athletes have won 16 gold, 11 silver and seven bronze medals during the competition involving 684 athletes from 26 Asian countries.

Three of China's golds Saturday came in women's events.

Cong Fuzhen won the women's shot put with a heave of 18.17 metres; Asian record-holder Feng Jinghua took first in the 100-metre hurdles with a time of 13.56 seconds and An Limei won the 10-kilometre walk at 52 minutes, 40.21 seconds.

Duan Xiuquan added another

gold to China's collection, winning the men's 1,500-metre race in 3:45.11.

On Friday, Talal Mansoor of Qatar and Lydia de Vega of the Philippines were named Asia's male and female athletes of the year by the Asian Track and Field Coaches Association. The coach of the year award went to China's He Zhenzhen.

Favourites make good start in Davis Cup ties

LONDON (R) — Australia, Sweden and India, each favourites in their World Group Davis Cup tennis ties, looked to have hooked their passage through to the semifinals after the opening matches on Friday.

All three countries won their opening two singles and need just one more victory in the remaining three matches to ensure going through to the next round, while in Paraguay, Spain took a 1-0 lead over the host country.

Holders Australia began confidently against Mexico in Brisbane with Wally Masur accounting for Jorge Lozano 6-3, 6-4, 6-4 and Wimbledon champion Pat Cash demolishing Leonardo Lavalle 6-2, 6-1, 6-0 in a one-sided match.

Sweden, beaten finalists last year, were equally in command in their tie against France. Despite losing the second set, Kent Carlsson defeated Thierry Tulasne 6-1, 3-6, 6-1, 6-2 and Mats Wilander downed French number one Henri Leconte 6-3, 6-4, 6-2.

India's first day lead against Israel was no less comprehensive but far more dramatic as police baton-charged a group of about 200 Arab and Israeli youths who tried to storm the heavily guarded stadium shouting support for the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO).

They were protesting at the Indian Government's decision to permit an Israeli team to take part in a sporting event on Indian soil. No injuries or arrests were reported.

Indian veteran Vijay Amritraj swept aside Israeli number one Amos Mansdorf 6-4, 6-4, 7-5 despite giving away 12 years to his 21-year-old opponent.

Earlier Ramesh Krishnan won a two-hour baseline battle 7-5, 6-1, 6-2 against Shlomo Glickstein after a first set that went to 10 deuces.

In a relegation zone match, Yugoslavia's Bruno Oresar demolished Jeremy Bates of Britain 6-1, 6-1, 1-6, 6-3 and Slobodan Zivojinovic beat Stephen Shaw 6-3, 6-4, 6-4.

Yugoslavia led Great Britain 2-0; Italy and South Korea were tied 1-1; and Czechoslovakia led Argentina 1-0.

1987 quarterfinals Sweden 2, France 0. Kent Carlsson and Mats Wilander scored easy victories for Sweden in their matches at Frejus, France.

Carlsson downed Thierry Tulasne, 6-1, 3-6, 6-1, 6-2. Wilander followed with a 6-3, 6-4, 6-2 victory over Henri Leconte.

Sweden can clinch the series and qualify for the semifinals with a doubles victory Saturday. Sweden's Stefan Edberg and Anders Jarryd will meet France's Leconte and Guy Forget.

Australia 2, Mexico 0. Wimbledon champion Pat Cash and Wally Masur scored straight-set victories for Australia in Brisbane.

Masur opened the series with a 6-3, 6-4, 6-4 victory over Mexico's top player, Jorge Lozano. Cash, playing for the first time since winning Wimbledon earlier this month, then downed Leonardo Lavalle 6-2, 6-1, 6-0.

Australia, the defending Davis Cup champion, is seeking to win the cup for the 27th time.

Spain 1, Paraguay 1. Spain's number 1, Emilio Sanchez, beat Paraguay's Victor Pecci 6-1, 6-4, 11-9 in the opening match in Caracas, Venezuela.

In the second match, Paraguay's Hugo Chacu defeated Sergio Casals 2-6, 7-5, 6-1, 6-3.

Relegation matches Czechoslovakia 1, Argentina 0. Karel Novacek of Czechoslovakia defeated Argentina's Juan Carlos.

China vs. Japan. China beat Japan in straight sets in a Davis Cup doubles match Saturday to take a 2-1 lead in the Eastern Zone semifinal. Liu Shuhua and Ma Keqin teamed to beat Eiji Takeuchi and Masayoshi Takayama 6-4, 6-4, 6-3 in the eastern zone city of Tianjin, the official Xinhua News Agency reported.

China and Japan split two singles matches Friday, when Liu defeated Shuzo Matsuzaka, the Japanese national champion, and Tsuyoshi Fukui bested Ma.

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Relegation matches Czechoslovakia 1, Argentina 0. Karel Novacek of Czechoslovakia defeated Argentina's Juan Carlos.

China vs. Japan. China beat Japan in straight sets in a Davis Cup doubles match Saturday to take a 2-1 lead in the Eastern Zone semifinal. Liu Shuhua and Ma Keqin teamed to beat Eiji Takeuchi and Masayoshi Takayama 6-4, 6-4, 6-3 in the eastern zone city of Tianjin, the official Xinhua News Agency reported.

China and Japan split two singles matches Friday, when Liu defeated Shuzo Matsuzaka, the Japanese national champion, and Tsuyoshi Fukui bested Ma.

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Frenchman wins penultimate Tour de France stage

DIJON, France (Agencies) — Jean-Francois Bernard of France Saturday won a 39-kilometre time trial in the Tour de France cycle race.

Stephen Roche of Ireland finished second to take the overall lead in the race.

The time trial was the 24th and penultimate stage of the cycling classic that ends Saturday in Paris.

On Friday Alla Jakovleva of the Soviet Union won the 92.5-kilometre (57.4-mile) 14th stage of the women's Tour de France, while Jeannie Longo of France kept the overall lead in the cycling event.

The leg from Lons le Saunier to Dijon saw the second stage victory for the Soviet team, after Tamara Polizkova's success in the 29.5-kilometre (18.3-mile) sixth-stage time trial at Blagnac on 15th July.

Longo, who easily won Thursday's 13th stage with a two-minute and 54-second advantage over rival Maria Canins of Italy, had a quiet day in the pack on Friday. She leads Canins by two minutes, 52 seconds in the overall standings with just one flat stage remaining.

At 15 kilometres (9.3 miles) from the finish, four riders managed to break away from the main pack — Soviet Alla Jakovleva, Teja Vikstedt-Nyman of Finland, West German Ines Varenkamp and Mieke Havik of the Netherlands. The group built a half-minute lead, when Havik had a tyre puncture and was left behind.

Vikstedt-Nyman of Finland was the first to accelerate on the sprint finish, but West German Varenkamp anticipated the manoeuvre. The Soviet then surged ahead to beat the finish line.

Saturday was a rest day before Sunday's 15th and final stage, a 34.1-kilometre (33.6-mile) flat route from Chaville to the Champs-Élysées in Paris.

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Heavy rain feared to pose danger to circuit

HOCKENHEIM, West Germany (R) — Britain's Nigel Mansell said he was "very dangerous" if it is raining in the heavy rain which reduced Saturday's final qualifying session to a wet weather training run.

The Williams driver, whose pace-setting lap in Friday's first Saturday afternoon to ensure him of his sixth pole position of the season, said puddles on the circuit and thick clouds of spray made driving conditions extremely hazardous.

"It is pretty bad," he said after recording the afternoon's best time — a relatively sedate two minutes 0.832 seconds compared to his best Friday of 1:42.616.

"On the sections through the woods, the spray seems to hang between the trees. You can't see anything in front of you."

"It is always like this at Hock-

enheim. I think it is the only circuit in the world which has this problem. If it is wet again Sunday, it is going to be very dangerous for the drivers."

Drizzle during the morning was followed by heavy rain throughout the afternoon session and, as a result, only one of the 26 drivers — Italy's Alex Caffi in an Osella — improved his qualifying time.

Caffi, however, could do little else as he had taken more than six minutes to drive one lap of the 6.8 km circuit on Friday.

Because of the weather, 11 drivers including world champion Alain Prost of France and Mansell's teammate and arch rival Nelson Piquet of Brazil, did not venture onto the track.

Hockenheim has a black history of fatal accidents and claimed the lives of Briton Jim Clark in 1968 and Frenchman Patrick Depailler 12 years later.

Mansell said he drove only three laps to test his wet weather set up and see "how bad the track was." He said: "I've done my homework and I'm happy. It will be an advantage to start from pole — no one else will be able to see where they are going if it is wet."

Mansell, seeking to complete a hat-trick after winning the French and British Grands Prix, said the wet weather would reduce the fuel consumption problems which prevail at Hockenheim and said his chief rivals would be Piquet, Prost and current world championship leader Brazilian Ayrton Senna of Lotus.

Both McLarens have been supplied with modified Porsche engines to improve their reliability. Mansell said: "I think they have done something special for this race... if it is dry, Alain (Prost) will be very fast."

Prost, who won the 1986 world championship, said he was "very dangerous" if it is raining in the heavy rain which reduced Saturday's final qualifying session to a wet weather training run.

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Aranda goes from street fighter to title contender

HOUSTON (AP) — Pascual Aranda of Houston stepped into the ring for his first professional fight in 1982 with little more than courage and seven years of street fights.

With no amateur experience, Aranda's first organised fight was against Stevie Cruz, who also was making his pro debut with a wealth of amateur fights behind him.

Aranda's career was almost over before it began.

Cruz won a four-round decision and four years later he captured the WBA featherweight title.

And whatever happened to Aranda, Cruz's first pro victim? Sunday in Las Americas arena, it is Aranda's turn to fight for a world title when he faces WBA featherweight champion Antonio Esparragosa.

Esparragosa is making his first title defence since taking the title from Cruz last March in Fort Worth, Texas.

And Aranda, the number 8 contender with a 29-6-1 record, is seeking his first big reward since losing to Cruz in his pro debut.

"We didn't know if Pascual wanted to be a fighter after that first fight," manager Hector Rocha said. "But we talked about it and decided to make a go for it."

Aranda's father encouraged him to take his fighting skills from the streets to the boxing ring.

"My father finally told me, 'Pascual, if you are going to fight, get someone to train you and do it for money, don't fight for free,'" Aranda said.

"I really didn't want to fight (on the streets) but I didn't have much choice. It was dangerous in the Barrio. You were either for the gangs or against them."

Aranda moved to Houston from his native Mexico at the age of 12 with his 11 brothers and sisters.

Aranda struggled to adjust in his adopted country. He was at

first ostracised by the language barrier and struggled to learn English while working until midnight on school nights as a dishwasher.

"I was hard, but now I am proud of what I have done," Aranda said. "On the streets, you get nothing. But now I have a chance to be a world champion."

Although his skills have improved, Aranda will be an underdog to the polished Esparragosa, 24-1-1.

Aranda, a brawling type fighter, has had to learn defensive skills.

"I was always getting hit with too many punches," Aranda said. "But I'm improving each fight."

Esparragosa says Aranda's lack of defensive skills will be his downfall.

"He sees some things about me and we see some things about him," Aranda said. "We'll just have to see what happens on Sunday."

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IMF to boost credits

WASHINGTON (AP) — Loans on easy terms worth an additional \$250 million will be available to 15 of the poorest countries in the International Monetary Fund (IMF) under a decision announced Friday.

About \$75 million was already available to them under previous arrangements.

The beneficiaries are: Bangladesh, Bolivia, Burundi, Central African Republic, Dominica, Gambia, Haiti, Mauritania, Mozambique, Niger, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Somalia, Uganda and Zaire.

The biggest additional amounts — about \$60 million each — will be for Zaire and Bangladesh.

These loans are for 10 years, with a grace period of five and a half years during which only interest at 0.5 of one per cent will be due. The money is disbursed immediately instead of being

dolled out at intervals of a few months on condition that the borrowing country meets agreed economic goals, as is the case with most loans from the fund.

Loans are granted in proportion to the quota of each of the member countries, the amount it contributed to the fund when it first joined.

The 15 countries are those which have made arrangements with the fund so far. Another 45 are eligible, and many of them are expected to apply. The fund is owned by 151 member governments, with the United States holding the largest voting power.

Mr. Michel Camdessus, the managing director of the organization, has asked better-off governments to triple the size of the special "structural adjustment fund" from which the loans are drawn. It now amounts to some \$3.8 billion.

Lloyds raises debt reserves

LONDON (R) — Lloyds Bank Plc, Britain's fourth biggest, Friday joined a growing list of major bank setting aside profits to cover potentially bad Third World loans, making a £1.07 billion (\$1.72 billion) provision.

With that sum, Lloyds has now set aside funds to cover 30 per cent of the £4.29 billion (\$6.89 billion) it loaned to countries now having problems servicing their debt.

The provision was far more than the £750 to £850 million (\$1.20 to \$1.36 billion) share analysts thought Lloyds would set aside, and gave the bank a £516

million (\$828 million) after-tax loss for the first half of 1987.

"The general climate was that we had to make provision," said Lloyds chairman Sir Jeremy Morse.

But, he said that because Lloyds would have had a first-half profit six per cent higher than last year's £214 million (\$343 million) without the provision, it decided to increase its dividend to shareholders by 10 per cent and to make that payment from its reserves.

The bank's shares fell 16 pence (26 cents) within minutes of the announcement to £4.03 (\$6.47).

AMMAN FINANCIAL MARKET

AMMAN (J.T.) — The following table summarizes trading activities at the Amman Financial Market during the week starting Saturday, July 18, '87 and ending Wednesday, July 22, '87. (Figures in Jordanian dinars).

Name of company	Number of shares	Volume of trade	Opening price	Closing price	Par value
Banking and financial institutions					
Industrial Development Bank	350	438	1,250	1,250	1,000
Petra Bank	3950	8314	2,110	2,100	1,000
Jordan Islamic Bank	1987	4025	2,000	2,050	1,000
Jordan Kuwait Bank	10387	17642	1,650	1,680	1,000
Jordan Gulf Bank	663	828	1,270	1,240	1,000
Housing Bank	6302	10398	1,650	1,650	1,000
Arab Jordan Investment Bank	13200	28790	2,220	2,200	1,000
Cairo Amman Bank	600	12000	20,000	20,000	5,000
Bank of Jordan	860	14313	16,800	16,650	5,000
Arab Bank	330	38165	115,750	115,500	10,000
Jordan National Bank	11350	28376	2,500	2,500	1,000
Jordan Finance House for Development	25525	24739	0,980	0,960	1,000
Islamic Investment House	16197	20088	1,740	1,710	1,000
Jordan Investment and Finance Corporation	110711	89571	0,780	0,770	1,000
Finance and Credit Corporation	8600	13685	1,600	1,600	1,000
National Financial Investments	5746	4229	0,730	0,720	1,000
National Portfolio Securities	4830	6211	0,900	0,900	1,000
Jordan Securities Corporation	200	262	1,300	1,310	1,000
Arab Finance Corporation (Jordan)	—	—	—	—	2,000
Real Estate Financing Corporation	—	—	—	—	10,000
Al Mashrek Exchange	—	—	—	—	—
Insurance and reinsurance					
Jordan French Insurance	850	4767	5,680	5,650	1,000
REPCO Life Insurance	1338	1163	0,880	0,870	1,000
Jordan Insurance	130	1430	11,000	11,000	1,000
Arab Life and Accident Insurance	645	522	0,830	0,810	1,000
Yarmouk Insurance and Reinsurance	150	158	1,050	1,050	1,000
Holy Land Insurance	—	—	—	—	1,000
Philadelphia Insurance	—	—	—	—	1,000
Arab Union International Insurance	—	—	—	—	1,000
Jerusalem Insurance	270	359	1,380	1,330	1,000
Jordan-Gulf Insurance	8150	6794	0,810	0,860	1,000
Universal Insurance	400	272	0,700	0,680	1,000
General Insurance	—	—	—	—	1,000
Jordan Eagle Insurance	—	—	—	—	10,000
Jordan East Insurance	—	—	—	—	10,000
Al-Izzah Insurance	—	—	—	—	1,000
National Ahliya Insurance	—	—	—	—	1,000
Arab Belgian Insurance and Reinsurance	—	—	—	—	1,000
Services and industries					
In ma for Investment and Financial Facilities	1480	897	0,640	0,590	1,000
Danco for Housing and Investment	10886	5862	0,520	0,520	1,000
Real Estate Investment (Agarco)	2000	824	0,430	0,410	1,000
Jordan Leasing Corporation	1234	796	0,650	0,630	1,000
Petra Enterprises and Leasing Equipments	15414	2004	0,640	0,630	1,000
Equipment Leasing & Maintenance/Tajero	300	105	0,850	0,850	1,000
Jordanian Electric Power	29917	45202	1,520	1,520	1,000
Irbid Electric	988	944	0,920	0,960	1,000
Arab International Hotels	—	—	—	—	1,000
Hotels and Tourism	—	—	—	—	1,000
Garage Owners Federation	310	123	1,110	1,110	1,000
Jordan National Shipping Lines	100	87	0,880	0,870	1,000
Jordan Press Foundation	—	—	—	—	1,000
Jordan Press and Publishing	28034	61675	2,200	2,200	1,000
Dar Al Shab Press, Printing and Publishing	9450	3969	0,420	0,420	1,000
Jordan Dairy	7054	8112	1,150	1,150	1,000
Arab Pharmaceutical Manufacturing	8319	17485	2,080	2,120	1,000
Intermediate Petrochemical Industries	97107	118833	1,060	1,030	1,000
Jordan Phosphate Mines	2049	4953	2,450	2,400	1,000
Industrial, Commercial and Agricultural (Intal)	12479	18207	1,470	1,450	1,000
Arab Chemical Detergent Industries	—	—	—	—	1,000
Aladdid Industries	38472	39237	1,030	1,010	1,000
Arab Aluminium Manufacturing	64560	114552	1,790	1,750	1,000
Jordan Worsteds Mills	135	587	4,300	4,350	1,000
Jordan Ceramics	2450	2580	1,050	1,060	1,000
Chemical Industries	10250	11243	1,140	1,090	1,000
Jordan Industries and Match (JIMCO)	1780	854	0,480	0,480	1,000
Dar Al Dawl for Development and Investment	5650	7802	1,380	1,380	1,000
National Steel Industries	35022	80386	2,310	2,290	1,000
Universal Chemical Industries	3100	2862	0,950	0,920	1,000
General Mining	—	—	—	—	1,000
Jordan Petroleum Refinery	5747	41497	7,210	7,240	5,000
Jordan Lime & Brick	22800	6156	0,270	0,270	1,000
National Industries	9530	5195	0,560	0,560	1,000
Arab Paper, Converting and Trading	—	—	—	—	1,000
Jordan Wooden Industries (JWICO)	—	—	—	—	1,000
Livestock and Poultry	500	400	0,780	0,800	1,000
Jordan Pipes Manufacturing	11680	13570	1,170	1,150	1,000
Rafia Industrial for Plastic Bags	50	120	2,450	2,400	1,000
Jordan Paper and Cardboard	39100	21293	0,580	0,530	1,000
Jordan Rockwood Industries	—	—	—	—	1,000
Trans-Jordan Minerals Research	—	—	—	—	1,000
Jordan Himeh Mineral	—	—	—	—	1,000
Orient Dry Batteries Factory	1735	954	0,600	0,550	1,000
Woolen Industries	886	1763	2,000	2,000	1,000
Jordan Tanning and Packaging	—	—	—	—	1,000
Jordan Tobacco and Cigarette	—	—	—	—	5,000
Jordan Brewery	—	—	—	—	1,000
Mas Industries	—	—	—	—	1,000
Arab Center for Pharmaceuticals & Chemicals	—	—	—	—	1,000
National Cable & Wire Manufacturing	62843	59376	0,940	0,940	1,000
Jordan Spinning & Weaving	53917	54794	0,950	0,950	1,000
Jordan Sulpho Chemicals	215344	621473	3,250	3,090	1,000
Jordan Cement Factories	99642	108542	0,980	1,000	1,000
Jordan Glass Industries	1374	1291	0,960	0,920	1,000
Grand total	1,151,199	1,796,866			

Banks in Bahrain likely to increase debt reserves

BAHRAIN (R) — Bahrain's major international banks are set to follow U.S. banking giant Citicorp's lead and increase sharply provisions against Third World debt, bankers say.

Gulf International Bank (GIB), the second largest on the island, set the tone with a firm statement of intent to boost reserves, saying it had "taken decisive action."

Other Bahrain-based banks, including the biggest Arab Banking Corp (ABC), are known to have been studying whether to follow the Citicorp lead.

Citicorp said in mid-May it was adding \$3 billion to its loan provisions to cover 25 per cent of its exposure to countries rescheduling their debt.

Bahrain's offshore banks, founded during the heady Euro-market days of the mid- to late 1970s, grew up on a diet of lending to Latin America as they tried to establish their presence in the international market place.

ABC has said its end-1986 group exposure to Latin America was \$1.433 billion, nearly 10 per cent of total assets.

Last year, it put aside slightly lower provisions of \$53 million after an allocation of \$61 million in 1985. ABC held its half-yearly board meeting in London earlier this week, but has so far not announced its figures.

GIB has put its end-1986 expo-

sure to Latin America at \$864.3 million or eight per cent of risk assets. The bank traditionally does not publish details of provisions, but its board approved a management recommendation to build up reserves.

Both GIB and ABC have strong capital bases, but some other Bahrain banks are far more exposed to Latin America.

The consortium bank Arabank International had 67.7 per cent of its end-1986 assets in Latin America — about \$1.1 billion and more than four times its capital.

As a result, shareholders — which include ABC — provided \$450 million credit line and have promised to stump up a further \$500 million if necessary.

Bankers said there are powerful reasons why Bahrain's banks should follow the Citicorp lead, but also a number of arguments that make the option less attractive and more difficult.

They said a key element in deciding to increase risk provisions must be the perception of Bahrain's banks in world financial markets abroad.

As banks like ABC and GIB increase their presence in centres such as London and New York,

they must be careful to keep their credit ratings with other banks high. A downgrading could mean a cutback in interbank lines or a higher cost for funds.

Going the Citicorp route is also not so easy for Bahrain's banks at a time when earnings remain under pressure. Although Gulf economies have picked up slightly with this year's firmer oil prices, activity is still sluggish.

Also, whereas U.S. banks can look forward to tax advantages by declaring high loan loss provisions, Bahrain banks face no domestic taxes, thus removing one major incentive.

Bankers said another complicating factor is political. ABC is owned by Libya, Abu Dhabi and Kuwait, while GIB's joint shareholders are the six GCC states — Saudi Arabia, Bahrain, Kuwait, Oman, the United Arab Emirates and Qatar — plus Iraq.

While some of the banks' annual earnings are ploughed back as capital, some goes into government treasury coffers. At a time of recession, the loss of revenue is a major political argument against a large "one off" addition to reserves.

But a powerful reason for taking the plunge this year is that Citicorp's move has sparked a reappraisal of risk provisioning worldwide.

"If Bahrain's banks report lower profits, they will be in good company," one banker said.

Oil prices fall to \$20 a barrel

NEW YORK (R) — Crude oil prices dropped sharply Friday in one of the year's steepest slides as traders cashed in profits amid reports that some OPEC members were producing well above their allotted quotas.

Crude oil for delivery in September dropped 66 cents to \$20.57 a barrel on the New York Futures Exchange, a 1.34 fall since the contract hit an 18-month peak of \$21.91 on Monday.

The most widely-traded international oil, North Sea Brent, sold \$19.35 for September delivery, down 60 cents.

The price of West Texas Intermediate in the cash market at Cushing, Oklahoma, also dropped 60 cents a barrel to \$20.57.

Oil prices have been under pressure most of the week as fears of a possible armed confrontation between Iran and the United States have so far proved unfounded.

News that a U.S.-escorted

Kuwaiti tanker was damaged by a mine left traders untroubled because the threat of U.S. retaliation appeared nil.

More important, they said, were signs that production by members of the Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) could be running as much as 2.3 million barrels per day (b/d) over the group's official quota of 16.6 million b/d.

"High-placed sources within OPEC are telling us that their recent production is about 18.9 million b/d," said Mr. William Randel, international oil analyst with First Boston Corp.

Analysts said the mine explosion that hit the Bridgeton tanker early Friday was not viewed as a direct act of aggression and so it would not invite U.S. retaliation.

Oil prices have been rising in recent weeks from around \$18 and have been as high as \$22 on fears that a clash between Iran and the United States might disrupt supplies.

prices well above the official prices this really does not represent a breakdown of discipline."

Analysts questioned the wisdom of excessive production, however, adding that without the fear of a Middle East skirmish, current worldwide demands was not in itself enough to sustain prices above \$20 a barrel.

"This level of production is simply too high for the market to absorb in the summer and could send oil prices down to \$18 a barrel," said Mr. William Randel, international oil analyst with First Boston Corp.

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Exxon reports higher earnings

NEW YORK (AP) — Exxon Corp., the world's biggest oil company, reported Friday that its second-quarter profit rose 3.1 per cent, while Phillips Petroleum Co. said its earnings declined.

Both companies said they were still feeling the effects of last year's collapse in worldwide oil prices.

New York-based Exxon said net income rose to \$1.15 billion compared with earnings of \$1.11 billion in the 1986 second quar-

ter. Revenue rose to \$20.16 billion vs. \$17.98 billion.

For the first six months, Exxon earned \$2.22 billion on revenue of \$39.59 billion. That was down from earnings of 2.82 billion and revenue of \$40.22 billion in the year-ago period.

No. 12-ranked Phillips Petroleum, based in Bartlesville, Oklahoma, said it netted \$3 million on revenue of \$2.64 billion. In the 1986 second quarter,

Phillips Petroleum earned \$8 million on revenue of \$2.34 billion.

For the first six months, Phillips Petroleum had a loss of \$29 million on revenue of \$5.19 billion. A year ago, the company earned \$104 million on revenue of \$5.45 billion.

Exxon Chairman L.G. Rawl said, "the slow rise in world crude oil prices which began early in the year continued in the second quarter."

YOUR DAILY Horoscope

from the Carroll Righter Institute

FORECAST FOR SUNDAY, JULY 26, 1987

GENERAL TENDENCIES: You may feel all stirred up to make some big plans for the future — go with the feeling. Channel your thoughts and efforts along very positive lines and have much success.

ARIES (Mar. 21 to Apr. 19) A far-away individual can give you good ideas for growth and advancement. Don't rush into a good time without planning.

TAURUS (Apr. 20 to May 20) Avoid an argument at home; the accord has been building for some time. Control your temper tonight.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 21) Study a message carefully before answering it. Be very cautious in motion. Caution is the key word today.

MOON CHILDREN (June 22 to Jul. 21) Coordinate your spending and saving of money, and set down a wise budget for your family and home.

LEO (Jul. 22 to Aug. 21) Budget your time wisely, as that personal wish will take longer than expected. Arrange a social affair with old friends.

VIRGO (Aug. 22 to Sept. 22) Seize an opportunity to turn a problem into something advantageous. It will take some time, but will be worth it.

LIBRA (Sept. 23 to Oct. 22) Get together with an old friend who has been depressed lately, but who is now out of the dumps. Have a great time.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21) You are well equipped to handle a public matter, but don't be hasty or forceful or you'll lose out in the long run.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 to Dec. 21) You want to begin something new and inspiring — an excellent idea. Plan a trip which will be profitable.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 to Jan. 20) The venture in which you and your mate are involved may take some time to mature, so be patient.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 21 to Feb. 19) You have agreed to handle an outside matter, but it would be better to find someone with experience to help out.

PISCES (Feb. 20 to Mar. 20) You may be eager to begin the activities ahead of you, but get a family tie to help. The beginning of an uprising.

IF YOUR CHILD IS BORN TODAY — he or she will be able to accomplish a great deal if the proper encouragement is given early on. Your child should be given a fine education which will prepare him or her for a position in a large corporation, or possibly in government. Sports are necessary here.

THE Daily Crossword

by Harold R. Counts

ACROSS

- 1 Jay
- 5 Host
- 8 Passengers
- 14 Location
- 15 Po
- 16 Cap-shaped
- 17 Rock group
- 18 helpers?
- 19 Oscar de
- 20 Nevertheless
- 21 Macho
- 22 Uncovered
- 23 Sunk
- 24 Tension
- 25 Sash
- 26 — Plines
- 27 Banks
- 28 Pleasant deer?
- 29 Eng. open
- 30 Twining plants
- 31 Gen. Bradley
- 32 Lesson fan?
- 33 Gab
- 34 "My Gal"
- 35 Up
- 36 Small fish
- 37 Dynamite's kin
- 38 Suffers
- 39 Unemployed
- 40 star?
- 41 — Pazo
- 42 Soap plant
- 43 Ho-hum
- 44 —

Sri Lanka to free 5,400 Tamils under peace plan

COLOMBO (R) — Sri Lanka has agreed to release 5,400 Tamil prisoners under a peace accord expected to be signed next week with India to end the island's four-year-old ethnic conflict, Tamil political sources said Saturday.

The sources told Reuters the prisoners had been held under emergency laws and the prevention of terrorism act, which allows police to detain a suspect for up to 18 months without trial. They said the Sri Lankan government promised to free 3,300 who had been in prison before late May, when the military captured the rebel-held Vadamachchi area in the northern peninsula of Jaffna, and 2,100 more who have been detained since June.

The sources declined to say when the prisoners would be released but said that the plan was linked to the surrender of firearms by Tamil rebels within three days as well as a ceasefire within 24 hours of signing the accord.

Sri Lanka would reciprocate by confining troops to barracks and gradually demilitarising Jaffna to pave the way for the return of civil administration so that

125,000 Sri Lankan Tamil refugees in India could return to their homes.

Jaffna is the major bastion of the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam (LTTE), the most powerful of the guerrilla groups fighting for a separate homeland for minority Tamils.

The proposed moves are part of the plan to grant limited autonomy to northern and eastern provinces, which would be linked as one unit through a single elected council with one chief minister.

A referendum would be held within one year in eastern province to determine whether the merger would continue.

The peace accord was expected to be signed in Colombo next week by President Junius Jayewardene and Indian Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi.

India, mediator in the conflict which has claimed 6,000 lives, is underwriting the agreement to ensure both sides comply with the

terms, diplomats said.

Political sources said the agreement with India provides for joint patrolling of the Palk Strait to ensure neither guns nor men are smuggled to northern Sri Lanka from south India where rebels have had a sanctuary.

Diplomats said Indian High Commissioner (ambassador) Jyotindra Nath Dixit, who flew to New Delhi Friday, was expected to return here Sunday with the draft plan.

The Tiger leader, Vellupillai Prabhakaran, also arrived in New Delhi Friday and was expected to sign the plan, either by appending his signature to it or signing a separate agreement with India.

"Prabhakaran has already consented to the agreement and the whole negotiations got under way only after he agreed to the plan days ago," an Indian source told Reuters. Other Tamil groups have reacted favourably to the plan.

Mr. Dixit flew to New Delhi "to tie loose ends there while Mr. Jayewardene would also tie his end here," the source said, referring to the president's meeting Saturday with his United Nations ally, UNP National Executive Committee.

New Indian president sworn in

NEW DELHI (AP) — Ramaswami Venkataraman, a 76-year-old veteran politician, was sworn in Saturday as India's eighth president in a colourful pageant in the capital.

He replaces Zail Singh, a 71-year-old Sikh from the northern Indian state of Punjab, who did not seek re-election to a second five-year term.

Mr. Venkataraman had served as India's vice president since August 1984 and was the choice of Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi's ruling Congress Party to succeed Mr. Singh.

He defeated an opposition candidate and an independent in balloting on July 13 by the Congress Party-dominated parliament and state legislatures.

An honour guard of horsemen in turbans accompanied Mr. Venkataraman and Mr. Singh to Parliament House, where India's Chief Justice R.S. Pathak administered the oath of office to Mr. Venkataraman.

The swearing-in, attended by parliament members and official guests, was televised nationwide. In his inaugural address, Mr. Venkataraman made it clear he would not offer Mr. Gandhi the kind of challenge that Mr. Singh did.

"I will neither fail to exercise the duties and functions attached to this high office nor stray beyond the powers enshrined in the constitution by the founding fathers," he said.

Mr. Singh, who for months was involved in a feud with Mr. Gandhi over their respective constitutional powers, complained that the prime minister was not keeping him informed on issues of national importance.

The prime minister has traditionally held the power in India, while the presidency has been largely ceremonial.

Mr. Venkataraman described India as "a democratic oasis in the desert of dictatorship" and urged the public to fully support India's parliamentary system.

But the new president also noted India's rising communal violence and called on the people to resist it.

"Communal violence shreds the ground we walk on," he said. "Religion and language are used as instruments of disruption."

"The people of India will emerge triumphant from their ordeals," he said.

He spoke in English under slowly whirling fans in the central hall of India's red sandstone parliament building, a legacy of the country's British rulers.

Just before the ceremony, former supreme court Judge M.P. Thakkar fainted and was taken from the hall on a stretcher. Doctors said he was overcome by the heat.

Fuelled by television lights and ineffective air-conditioning, the temperature inside the hall rose to 39 degrees Celsius.

Salvadorean rebels blow up highway bridge

SAN SALVADOR, El Salvador (AP) — Leftist guerrillas blew up a Panamerican Highway Bridge, virtually isolating the eastern part of El Salvador, military and civilian sources in the area said. No deaths or injuries were reported in the pre-dawn explosion Friday.

The sources, who demanded they not be identified for security reasons, said the rebels blew up the Quebrada Seca Bridge in San

10 reported killed, 41 hurt in Haitian protest

PORT-AU-PRINCE (R) — Ten people were killed and 41 wounded during a march by followers of missionaries in a remote Haitian farming village, the Information Ministry has said.

Earlier, radio stations had reported that at least 30 people were killed in an ambush by former members of the Tonton Macoutes, the disbanded militia that terrorised Haitians during the Duvalier dictatorship.

A press release from the Information Ministry said Friday, followers of the missionaries in the town of Jean-Rabel, 225 kilometres north west of Port-Au-Prince, staged a march during which the houses of people who refused to join were burnt.

It gave no further details but Haiti-Inter radio station said there were land disputes in the area of the town which has no telephones or electricity.

The earlier radio reports said at least 30 people died when Tonton Macoutes lay in wait and opened fire on an anti-Macoute demonstration.

Catholic Radio Soleil, which has a reputation for reliability, said bodies were still being counted and the death toll could be as high as 50.

In a later report on Radio Soleil, a local correspondent said the murders were a pre-planned ambush.

He said peasants from nearby mountain communities had come to Jean-Rabel to march in a peaceful demonstration. It was unclear what they were demonstrating for.

When they left to return home an apparently blood-stained man appeared in the town and said Macoutes had ambushed and massacred the demonstrators and wounded many more, the correspondent said.

Furious townsmen grabbed machetes and rushed out to aid

the injured peasants, and the man went off by himself.

When the townsmen marched out, they were ambushed and 10 died and 41 were wounded, the correspondent said.

After the wounded were transported to a small clinic in Jean-Rabel nearly devoid of medicine, followers of their assailants attacked the hospital.

The correspondent for Radio Soleil made an impassioned appeal for Haitians to send medicine to the hospital.

Under the Duvalier dictatorship, July 29 was a national holiday known as Tonton Macoutes Day and marked by official celebrations to praise the blue-dressed, scarlet-sashed Macoutes.

The militia has been widely accused of assassinating political enemies of the Duvaliers and terrorising citizens.

All three radio stations, Radio Soleil, Protestant Radio Lumiere and Radio Haiti-Inter said the Macoutes lay in wait as the demonstrators marched and then opened fire.

There was no immediate information on the number injured.

In another incident, soldiers shot and killed a man during an anti-government demonstration in the town of Cayes, Radio Antilles reported.

The reported killings in Jean-Rabel was by far the most violent incident in a series of anti-government strikes and demonstrations that have hit Haiti in the past month.

Government troops fired in the air to disperse some 10,000 unemployed people staging a march in the capital against provisional military President Henri Namphy's government earlier Friday, in defiance of a government decree requiring 48 hour notice and a police permit to demonstrate.

Soviets to try German pilot

MOSCOW (AP) — The West German teen-ager who landed a biplane in Red Square will be put on trial in the Soviet Union, a West German embassy official said Saturday.

The embassy has not been told when Matthias Rust will be tried or what charges he will face, but expects to receive that information from Soviet officials next week, embassy legal counsellor Gerhard Evers Schroombgens told the Associated Press.

In the Soviet Union, violation of international flight regulations carries a penalty of up to 10 years in jail or a fine of up to 1,000 rubles (about \$1,550). Illegal entry into the country carries a maximum three-year sentence.

"We were informed that he has been given a Soviet lawyer and the embassy has asked to be present at the trial," Mr. Schroombgens said. "I plan to visit him on Tuesday."

The 19-year-old Rust captured worldwide attention when he flew a borrowed single-engine Cessna

from Helsinki, Finland, through one of the most tightly controlled airspace in the world to the Kremlin walls and Red Square on May 28.

Rust's parents have described their son as an idealist who apparently flew to Moscow in an effort to promote understanding between East and West.

A Soviet news agency (TASS) dispatch in May accused Rust of violating Soviet airspace.

The unauthorised flight prompted Moscow to fire Air Marshal Alexander Koldimov and accept the resignation of Defence Minister Sergei Sokolov.

Rust has been in custody since landing in Moscow, but the Bonn government has been allowed periodic meetings with him in keeping with Soviet-West German protocol. His parents visited him last month.

Mr. Schroombgens, who last saw Rust two weeks ago at Lefortovo Prison in eastern Moscow, described the teen-ager's mood as good.

U.K. blames ferry owners, crew for disaster

LONDON (AP) — An official inquiry has blamed ferry owners Vincente province, about 72 kilometres east of the capital. The Quebrada Seca, a barge bridge, spanned the Coco River on the major east-west route in El Salvador. A barge bridge consists of prefabricated steel sections in the form of lattices.

The temporary bridge was donated by the United States after rebels destroyed the original span in 1983 during an attack in which 44 soldiers were killed.

It was the third bridge dynamited by rebels in the past eight days. Since 1981, the rebels have destroyed or seriously damaged 78 of the 92 major bridges in the country.

Leftist rebels have been waging a civil war against the U.S.-backed government since 1979. More than 63,000 people, most of them civilians, have been killed in the fighting.

Former Panamanian army chief calls for Noriega ouster

PANAMA CITY, Panama (AP) — The former chief of the defence forces on Friday called for Gen. Manuel Antonio Noriega to step down as the nation's military ruler and end weeks of civil unrest.

"It is you, General Noriega (who is) the only and great cause of this conflict that divides 2 million Panamanians," retired Gen. Ruben Dario Paredes said in an open letter sent to officers and troops.

"You are the only person keeping us from reaching a peaceful and democratic agreement," he said.

Gen. Paredes and Gen. Noriega are Panama's only two generals. His comments were considered a clear boost to those demanding that the military re-

duce its influence on government. "There is little space left for manoeuvring today," Gen. Paredes wrote. "Tomorrow could be too late. Your retirement should be planned and professionally ordered, to avoid stampedes and street disturbances."

Gen. Paredes retired after losing an internal power struggle following the death in a plane crash of Gen. Omar Torrijos, the former military strongman, in 1981.

The unrest started in June after Col. Roberto Diaz Herrera, who recently retired as Gen. Noriega's second-in-command, said the general was involved in election fraud, corruption and the deaths of Gen. Torrijos in 1981 and of opposition leader Hugo Spadafora in 1985.

COLUMNS 7 & 8

Egyptian executed for murder

BAHRAIN (R) — An Egyptian convicted of murder was beheaded in Saudi Arabia after Friday prayers, an Interior Ministry statement said. The statement, read over Riyadh television, said Ali Ibn Abdul Munim had been found guilty of killing another Egyptian worker with a knife in his residence in Najran city in south western Saudi Arabia.

Shepherd arrested over big drug haul

ASWAN, Egypt (R) — An Egyptian shepherd has been arrested after police and border guards seized smuggled arms and seven tonnes of narcotics at a remote spot on the Sudanese border, police sources said. Hashish and opium worth 50 million Egyptian pounds (\$22 million) were hidden in over 100 tyres on five trucks, together with guns and ammunition, they said. It was believed to be one of the biggest drug seizures in Egypt. After a desert chase in the border area south of Aswan, police and border guards arrested shepherd Abdul Halim for investigation on smuggling charges.

Bank robbers kill 6 policemen

PACHUCA, Mexico (AP) — Police in Veracruz state began a hunt for six bank robbers who killed six policemen in two states, a district attorney's spokesman said. The crimes began Thursday in the town of Zauacatlan, about 170 kilometres north of Mexico City in Hidalgo state, when the six burst into the local branch of the Serfin Bank, said Jose Clemente Arroyo, district attorney's spokesman in the Hidalgo state capital of Pachuca. He said the six ordered customers and employees to lie on the floor while the manager turned over about \$204,000 worth of pesos. They fled, taking three hostages. Bank guard Jesus Ramirez Vite, 45, and police officer Octavio Rodriguez Savini, 36, were killed in shootouts with the fleeing robbers, Arroyo said. The group headed north in two cars, crossing into neighbouring Veracruz state. In the town of Huayacocotla, about 100 kilometres north of the robbery site, they had a shootout with groups of Veracruz officers. Arroyo identified the victims of that shootout as officers Jose Rangel, 23; Manuel Zalazar, 32; Teofilo Cruz Jimenez, 38; and Aquilino Altamirano, 22.

Take from vault robbery up by 50%

LONDON (AP) — More than half the people who lost valuables in the daring armed robbery of a safe deposit vault almost two weeks ago have claimed combined losses of £13 million to £15 million (\$21-24 million), Scotland Yard has said. The estimate of confirmed losses was about 50 per cent higher than the initial figure of £9 million (\$14 million) issued after the July 12 robbery, but still well below Scotland Yard's overall estimate of £20 million (\$32 million). Some press reports have put the total as high as £30 million (\$48 million), but the exact amount will never be known because some of the box-holders will not identify themselves or specify what they had on deposit.

Turkish consul held in bribe case

ATLANTA (R) — The Turkish honorary consul general in Atlanta and a local professor of medicine were arrested on charges of attempting to bribe local government officials, a local prosecutor said. Ramsey Agan, the Turkish honorary consul general, and Raul Sarper, were arrested on charges of attempting to bribe two DeKalb County commissioners to approve a change in the local land-use law to permit the two men to build a hotel. DeKalb prosecutor Bob Wilson said Agan does not have diplomatic immunity and will stand trial. According to Wilson, the two men approached two county commissioners in connection with the property located near one of Atlanta's freeways. The two men are charged with paying a total of \$7,500 in bribes.

Garlic ice cream readied for festival

GILROY, California (R) — Several tonnes of calamari, scampi, mushrooms and bread were stockpiled in Gilroy for this weekend's annual garlic festival. "We have garlic ice cream, garlic jewellery and garlic wine," said Bevonn Sotile, one of the organisers, "and naturally all of the food we prepare includes garlic." Ninety per cent of the garlic produced in the United States comes from California, most of it within 9 miles of Gilroy. Sotile said nearly 150,000 people were expected for the festivities. All spaces on a special train from San Francisco, dubbed the "garlic express," were sold out.

Soviets develop new helicopter

MOSCOW (AP) — The Soviet Union has developed a new helicopter than can lift and haul up to 20 tonnes, TASS reported. The Soviet news agency said that the MI-26T copter, tested in Siberia, can lift a crawler tractor and haul it at speeds of up to 290 kmph (180 mph) for up to 700 kilometres (430 miles). The helicopter's cargo cabin has room for two trucks and a 40-passenger bus, while its outside suspension can carry a drilling rig and a bulldozer, TASS said. In addition, the helicopter has a record-low fuel consumption per tonne of transported cargo, the agency quoted Alexei Krivosheev, who tested the copter, as saying. Due to a lot of technical novelties introduced in its design, the helicopter is not simply a promising version of other "MI" rotorcrafts, but is, in essence, "the beginning of a new stage in Soviet helicopter-building," TASS said.

Illegal hunting nearly wiped out rare tiger

PEKING (AP) — Illegal hunting has left the rare south China tiger close to extinction, the official China Daily newspaper said Friday. The paper said the forestry minister has estimated that only about 30 of the tigers are left in the wild and the outlook for them is much bleaker than for China's most famous endangered species — the giant panda. Some 1,000 giant pandas are left in the wild. The tigers have traditionally been found in Hubei, Hunan, Jiangxi, Fujian and Sichuan provinces and Guangxi Zhuang autonomous region. The animals' skins can be found on sale in a fur market in Jixian county, Jiangxi province, for about 1,000 yuan (\$270) each, and a stuffed one sells for 2,000 to 3,000 yuan (\$540 to \$810) apiece, the newspaper said. It quoted an official of the China Wildlife Conservation Association as saying that the association has asked local authorities to take strong measures to stop the illegal hunting and to ban the fur market. But they say the market turns over 1.2 million yuan (\$320,000) per year in taxes to the county.

Beatles sue record company for \$40m

NEW YORK (AP) — The Beatles have filed a \$40-million lawsuit against their former record company and demanded the return of master tapes of their top albums, according to reports published Friday. The Beatles charged in state supreme court in Manhattan that Capitol Records and its parent company EMI unfairly withheld release of the group's records on compact discs for two years, the New York Post and the Daily News said. The suit also claims the record company is illegally taking 25 per cent from the Beatles' compact disc royalties, the Post said. The suit was filed on behalf of Paul McCartney, George Harrison, Ringo Starr, John Lennon's widow, Yoko Ono, and their now-defunct Apple Record label. The news noted that McCartney is not officially named in the suit but part of it because he owned 25 per cent of Apple. "They are cheating the Beatles out of millions and they are very upset," lawyer Leonard Marks was quoted as saying by the Post. The suit also claims that Capitol refused to release multimillion-dollar lawsuit they had filed to collect back royalties from the record firm.

South Korean flood toll rises to 130 dead

SEOUL, South Korea (AP) — Rescue workers with shovels and bulldozers dug through debris for bodies and possible survivors Saturday as South Korea struggled to recover from record rains that killed at least 130 people.

Two days after muddy floodwaters began to subside, many parts of South Korea's central regions remained submerged, government officials said.

The latest tabulation by the Counter-Disaster Centre in Seoul listed 130 people dead and 23 missing after the heaviest rains in modern South Korean history. There also were 210 people injured.

The floods destroyed thousands of homes, roads and railroad tracks and left 69,000 people homeless. Property dam-

age was tentatively put at \$125 million.

The downpours, measuring up to 67 centimetres (26.4 inches) in less than 24 hours, turned vast parts of the country's central regions into a virtual sea.

"It's beyond description," Kim Young-Kon, 53, a farmer said, appearing on a live television programme showing the flood-stricken area.

"Unless water is withdrawn in a day or two, this year's rice harvest could be impossible," he said.

Officials at the Ministry of Agriculture and Fishery expected a 20 to 30 per cent drop in this year's rice harvest in the central zone but ruled out the possibility of foreign imports of rice, South Korea's staple food.

Judge rules families must sue Boeing in Japan over crash

SEATTLE (R) — A Washington state judge has ruled that Japanese families will have to sue Boeing in Japanese courts for additional damages over the 1985 crash of a Japan Airlines Boeing 747 Jumbo Jet that killed 520 people.

At the same time, King County superior court Judge Gary Little ruled that relatives of American victims can go to court in Seattle where Boeing is based.

Japanese families represent the vast majority of those suing Boeing for additional damages over the crash. Court clerk Dean Hamilton said 71 of those killed

were Japanese and six were American.

Legal experts have said a U.S. jury would be likely to award a larger amount of damages than its counterpart in Japan, where judgments are generally lower.

According to court records, the additional damages suit alleges Boeing did not make certain long-needed design changes that would have prevented the crash.

Boeing and Japan Air Lines have admitted liability for the crash and have paid about \$100 million in damages to the families out of court, the records say.

GOREN BRIDGE

BY CHARLES GOREN
AND OMAR SHAHIN
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ANSWERS TO WEEKLY BRIDGE QUIZ

Q.1—As South, vulnerable, you hold:
♠1092 ♣Q10785 ♠AK862
The bidding has proceeded:
South West North East
Pass Pass 10 Pass

What do you bid now?
A.—You had a borderline opening bid, but passed because of your weakness in the majors. Now your hand has improved to the point where you could make a slam opposite a minimum opening bid with its values in the right places. You must make a forcing bid to start with, and the jump shift to three clubs is obvious. It guarantees a fit for partner's suit.

Q.2—As South, vulnerable, you hold:
♠AJ3 ♣AJ1065 07 ♠KJ63
The bidding has proceeded:
West North East South
Pass 1♣ 2♣ ?
What do you bid now?
A.—Are you tempted to double for penalties? However, even if the opponents do not remove to diamonds the penalty you accrue may not make up for the game, and possibly slam, you are surely giving up. It is wrong to double for penalties when you have support for partner's suit. Bid two hearts. That is forcing, and will allow the auction to develop normally.

Q.3—Both vulnerable, as South you hold:
♠AK3 ♣5 ♠KJ10652 ♠KQ7
The bidding has proceeded:
North East South West
1♣ Pass 10 Pass
1♥ Pass ?
What action do you take?
A.—A forcing bid of some kind is required, but no satisfactory one is available. Even proponents of fourth suit forcing at the one-level will only delay their problem by bidding one spade. We suggest some jump bid, but three diamonds is only invitational. Therefore, we prefer the jump to three clubs. If partner is short in clubs, he prob-

ably has diamond support and will show it, or else bid no trump.

Q.4—East-West vulnerable, as South you hold:
♠K5 ♣AK3 ♠AQ9 ♠KJ65
The bidding has proceeded:
South West North East
1♣ Pass Pass 2♣ ?
What action do you take?
A.—No one disputes that you have the best hand at the table. However, that does not mean you have to take a minus score. Since partners strain to keep the bidding open over one club, you can expect little help. To double for takeout or bid no trump will almost surely lead to a loss for your side. Pass, and hope to beat the opposing contract.

Q.5—Neither vulnerable, as South you hold:
♠K102 ♣AQ85 ♠Q5 ♠AJ87
The bidding has proceeded:
North East South West
1♣ Pass 1♥ Pass
2♥ Pass ?
What do you bid now?
A.—You should be thinking in terms of a possible slam, rather than merely game. The easiest way to probe, and the one giving you the most room while keeping the auction at a modest level, is to bid three clubs. To return to opener's minor after agreeing a major suit is forcing, and partner's next bid might help you determine the hand's possibilities.

Q.6—East-West vulnerable, as South you hold:
♠K3 ♣2 ♠K9875 ♠Q10653
The bidding has proceeded:
West North East South
1♣ 2♣ 2♥ ?
What action do you take?
A.—You can bet on the opponents being able to make game, and perhaps even slam. Therefore, you should take advantage of the vulnerability to make it as difficult as possible for them to get together. Our vote goes to a jump to five diamonds, or even six. Force them to guess at a high level.

4 officers charged in Philippine coup plot

MANILA, Philippines (AP) — The military chief-of-staff placed troops and police in a dozen provinces around the capital on full alert Saturday to prevent any disruption of the inaugural session of the Philippine congress.

A statement from military headquarters said Gen. Fidel Ramos also approved the filing of rebellion charges against four officers linked to an aborted plot against President Corazon Aquino earlier this month.

The statement said Gen. Ramos widened the state of maximum military readiness to provinces within 160 kilometres of the capital following news reports that supporters of deposed President Ferdinand Marcos were planning to disrupt the opening of Congress.

The Manila Chronicle on Saturday quoted Brig.-Gen. Antonio Samonte, southern Luzon commander, as saying he had uncovered a plot by some of his troops to sneak into Manila before congress convened Monday and join other anti-government forces in the capital.

Brig. Samonte described the plotters as soldiers disgruntled with the Aquino administration or still loyal to Marcos. But he declined to reveal other details or say what steps he had taken to prevent the planned "disruptive activities," the newspaper said.

Brig.-Gen. Alexander Aguirre, Manila area commander, said Friday he was not aware of any specific plan to disrupt the ceremonies but placed all troops and police in the capital on maximum alert "just to be sure."

Mr. Aquino, propelled to power by a civilian-military uprising last year, will formally relinquish his sole lawmaking power to the legislature and deliver a "state of the nation" address in Monday's ceremonies.

Leftist students and peasants have announced plans to hold demonstrations Monday to protest Mrs. Aquino's land reform programme and her alleged subservience to wealthy landlords and U.S. imperialism.

The officers to be charged before a court martial were identified as two majors and two captains. They were among at least 10 military officers arrested following the discovery of the new coup plot this month, the military statement said.

Southern African states pledge to boost cooperation

LUSAKA (R) — Nine southern African states have pledged to step up cooperation to reduce economic dependence on South Africa but also appealed to the international community to help them overcome crippling debt burdens and food shortages.

Members of the Southern African Development Coordination Conference (SADCC) announced after a one-day summit in Lusaka that their organisation had made significant progress over the last year in implementing their cooperation programmes, particularly in the areas of transport, investment and production.

A statement issued after the meeting of heads of state of Botswana, Tanzania, Angola, Mozambique, Lesotho, Swazi-

land, Zambia, Zimbabwe and Malawi said the total resources required for the SADCC programme of action were more than \$6 billion.

Of this \$2.5 billion had already secured from local resources and from the international community.

But a crippling debt burden affecting many member states as well as drought in several parts of the region was threatening the group's goals of greater economic cooperation and self-sufficiency, the leaders said.

"The summit appealed for assistance and called on the international community, and particularly creditor countries and institutions, to take all appropriate measures to lighten this burden," the statement said.

مكتبة الزمان